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THEOLOGICAL UNION

The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 78 JANUARY 1984 No. 1

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The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION: Psalm 32: 8

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye".

The Psalmist begins the Psalm with the word 'Blessed' and he continues to say "is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.——is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile (32: 1-2).

He speaks from his own experience, in life, with God. The blessed man is the one whose sins are forgiven and in whom there is no guile. Jesus Christ spoke about Nathaniel, John 1.47. He was honest and he was frank in his opinion. Are we blessed like this ?

The blessed man is not the money lender, not the Landlord, not the one who has lot of ability, not the one who can prepare and preach well, not the one with authority, not the one who can monopolize everything and every body, not the one who could boast of several achievements by his cleverness; but the one whose sins are forgiven and washed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

In verse 7. he says that God is his hiding place. The one who blessed him is the hiding place. The verse reveals that he is in trouble, but he knows he is secure because God is his hiding place. Is He our hiding place when every thing is wrong and when all are against ? He was assured of the Lord's promise to him in verse 8. It can be divided into 2 sections.

1. He will instruct and teach about the way in which you have to go, God instructing us. He is prepared to do so provided we are prepared to listen to him and obey.

   Another thing can be noted that we do not know the way through which we should proceed, so He has to instruct us. If we claim that we know everything, then we close the door of being taught. Let us be open and frank with Him and say that we do not know the way through which we ought to walk in our daily life. We have no idea about the next moment, though we plan for months and years. Even our plannings need to be based on His instruction.

2. He will guide us with His eye.

   This assures us of his protection and care. God does not leave us alone. He goes where we go, and watches over us. His eye is upon us as the mother birds eyes are upon the young ones.

If He has to guide us we have to look to Him. Constantly we need to fix our eyes upon His face both in happiness and in sorrow, both in plenty and poverty. We need Him always. How often we as individuals, families, churches and societies and as a nation failed to look at him for His guidance ?

Back in 1971—Mr. William and I were going from Jamnamarathur to Nadanoor in Jawadhi Hills. We had to cover a distance of 14 miles through the jungles. Both of us were new to the place. When we reached a particular place we found another road turning to the right side. We did not know through which way we should go. It was evening and there was no one in the jungle. We shouted and only the echoes of our voice were heard. Finally when perplexed, we looked to God and He guided us with a still small voice "Turn to the left and walk". Is it not wonderful. He guides us !

May the Lord help us to get instructions and teachings from Him and also His guidance be with us.

Let God fulfil all our petitions so that we may rejoice in Him. Ps. 20: 5.

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

GIFTS FOR THE WORK IN JAWADHI HILLS

The World Redeemers' Church at Royapuram, Madras is supporting the work at Kalyanamandai in Jawadhi. The Rev. Manickam and his wife participated in R.C.S.F. camp as leaders in May 1983. After returning back, he has contacted a few church members and got the following items for the missionary work in the Hills :

A bicycle	—	Kalyanamandai
A Drum	—	Kalyanamandai
A Tamarin	—	Kalyanamandai
Old Clothes for	—	Kalyanamandai
A petromax Light	—	Kattiankudisai

Two offertory bags for Jamnamarathur Church

Mr. A. C. Victor Sundaraj of Tambaram attended the camp as a leader and he has donated an Amplifier, a mike and a horn for the work in Nadanoor.

Mrs. Grace Sathiaraj of Bangalore has donated Bibles and a Tamarin for the work at Kattiankudisai from her family.

The Bains School children of Madras, have given old clothes to the Jawadhi children.

On behalf of the Society I am thankful to all those who have donated things for the work.

General Secretary.

N.M.S. Headquarters office needs a missionary minded and committed Stenographer, who would be able to handle the Correspondence. The present scale of pay is as follows:

Rs. 400-15-490-20-650-25-670 D A 10% of the basic pay Hq. allowance Rs. 50/- House rent allowance Rs. 25/- Medical allowance Rs. 20/-

We may give a higher starting for suitable and deserving candidate—apply to the General Secretary with particulers.

General Secretary.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

I do wish you all a blessed and Christ centred New Year.

God in His mercy has enabled us to see another Christmas and praise Him. On Christmas day, the Society has entered into another year. 78 years have passed. The Society had ups and downs, but it continues to serve the Lord and the church in this country of ours Often we praise men, the men who served or serving in the Society. I very strongly feel that no man be praised but we should praise God for the people and their involvement in the work. All Glory and Honour to the Lord of Missions and Evangelism.

The Society's financial position is not so sound and we are in deficit of nearly Rs. 40,000/- by December itself. There are two main reasons for this :

1. We have revised the scale of pay of all the N.M.S. employees from 1st of January 1983.

2. We have appointed more men (15 people) during 1983 in the field.

But I very strongly feel that this is because of the spiritual problem within us. We need not blame others. Let us examine ourselves in the light of God's word and His concern. If we had the vision and concern for the people, who have not heard the gospel this problem would not have risen.

Personally I felt I should not write about the financial problem, but I have to inform this to all those who are concerned about the work. Only faith needs to be challenged. During 1981 and 1982 the Society did not face this problem. I trust in the same God for the supply of funds.

Yet my inner feeling is that we have not prayed much for the work. Let us humble ourselves and rededicate ourselves for the work.

In faith we are appointing another 4 people. But all the four workers are for North India. Two of them will be joining from the middle of January. Please pray for the new recruits.

A house for our N.M.S. Worker was dedicated in Jawadhi Hills on 13th December 1983 by the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, Vice President of the Society.

Seven people were baptized in Puri on 24th December 1983 and added to the church. The details of the above are found elsewhere in this issue.

To Jawadhi and to Puri we went as family so that we may have a little glimpse of the work. Particularly I took my children, though they are aged 8 and 3 so that they may get interested in the missionary work. In Puri I had a very busy schedule from the time I reached there and till I got into the train. The work in Puri is challenging.

Sometimes we are haunted with fear, of circumstances and the evil forces and forget the Lord who has called us for His work. Let us all read and meditate on Psalm 32: 8 and 20: 5. I am writing this months meditation on the above verses as I was personally blessed.

May the Living Lord guide us as we have entered into 1984.

My kind enquiries and greetings to you all.

With prayers,

Yours in His Service,
(J. M. JAYASINGH)
General Secretary.

FIELD REPORTS

HEBRI : Karnataka

Mr. Eric Wilson visits the villages very systematically and contacts people. He writes—

"In the first week we visited twenty houses of Chena Village for the third time. Though these people are fond of their own religious ways, they showed much patience to hear the gospel as if it is a new thing for them. One Mr. Kalu Madivala and his neighbour Manju were contacted at their respective quarters. Their questions were answered and books were sold to them".

Mr. Krishna Shenoy, who was contacted earlier continues to show interest in knowing more about Jesus. His son Upendra Shenoy visits the house of Mr. Eric Wilson and listens to the teachings. Pray that these people may find Christ in their lives. A lady from Hosevokalu regularly attends the prayer meetings. You are requested to pray for her. There are many people who have bought the gospel portions. Praise God for the God's word which penetrates in this area.

Basai—M.P.

The Rev. Ravi Ratan Vyas reports that in Satkon village, a non-Christian teacher is interested in gospel work. He listens to the gospel message very gladly. A Takur boy wants to accept Christ from Basai, but his parents are against him. He needs our prayers. Mr. Vyas visits the schools in and around Basai and proclaims the good news. Please pray that the contacts made may bring glory to our Master.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. Pappachan & Mr. Stephen Purushottaman.

A tuition class, is conducted once a week at Pottamaver tribal centre. Parents are interested in sending their children to the class. Even the illiterate grown up people would like to learn to read and write. Through the children, the parents are contacted with the gospel.

The St. Thomas Marthoma Church in Punnalur has donated clothes for the poor tribal children of Kulathupuzha area. The evangelists have collected things for the N.M.S. sale at Trivandrum and they participated in the Sale at Trivandrum.

Pray that the work in Kulathupuzha area may take root and many prople may come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Pentacottah—Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mr. R. V. Ramana and Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi.

On 24th of December 1983, 7 people were baptized and added to the church. The Rev. Paul Sanjeevi and Rev. Nayak of the Oriya Baptist church baptised the converts. A few members from the Oriya Baptist (C.N.I.) participated in the baptism service and witnessed it. Praise God. Please pray that these new converts may stand firm in their faith. A girl known as Devatha was brought to us for prayer, in February 1983 while the General Secretary and the Organising Secretary visited Puri. She was affected by polio and could not walk properly. The General Secretary and his colleagues prayed and now she is able to walk with a stick. Her name is changed as Hepsiba. Please continue to pray for her.

The desire of the Govt. officials to evict the people from the area continues, but the people are negotiating. Please pray for the people in this area.

Nolayasahi—Puri : Mr. & Mrs. Daud Sagar.

The work in this area is progressing inspite of the opposition from different people. The Oriya fishermen are happy that they have an evangelist to be with them to teach their children and to proclaim the word of God. They had a special Christmas Service and they donated Rs. 45/- for the work of N.M.S.

Library Work—Puri

For the time being, the Library work is suspended for want of proper person. Please pray that the Lord may give us a suitable person to work in this particular field.

Jawadhi Hills

Christmas programmes were conducted in all stations. The Rev. Sonny Yesudian of Tamilnad Theological Seminary college was with Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan at the time of Christmas programme in Pudur.

Mr. Jasper Daniel of St. John's Church Vellore, Mrs. Grace Sathiaraj of Bangalore, The Rev. J. M. Jayasingh and his family were at the Christmas Programme at Nadanoor. The boys of Nadanoor enacted the Christmas play. They also dramatised other stories from the Bible. Children recited Bible Verses. Prizes

were distributed to Children, by Mr. Jasper Daniel, Mrs. Grace Sathiaraj and Mrs. Jayamathi Jayasingh. About 500 people of the area witnessed the Christmas programmes.

Home Dedication

Earlier it was reported in the N.M.I. that a house is being constructed at Kattiankudisai in Jawadhi Hills by the support from friends of Nagercoil, Madurai and Bangalore. Major support came from Bangalore friends through the efforts of Mr. & Mrs. K. P. Sathiaraj.

The house was dedicated on 13th December 1983 by the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, the Vice President and Bishop in Vellore. The following friends came with the Bishop.

The Rev. Singaram Dorairaj—Vice President

The Rev. E. M. Jeganathan, Bishop's Chaplain.

Mr. Kamalanathan, The Head Master of the Voorghes Hr. Secondary School.

Mr. Joseph Soundararajan and a few others from Vellore.

The team had to face a lot of difficulty in reaching the place. They had to push the van in two places. To reach the spot we all had to walk about 5 miles (up and down)

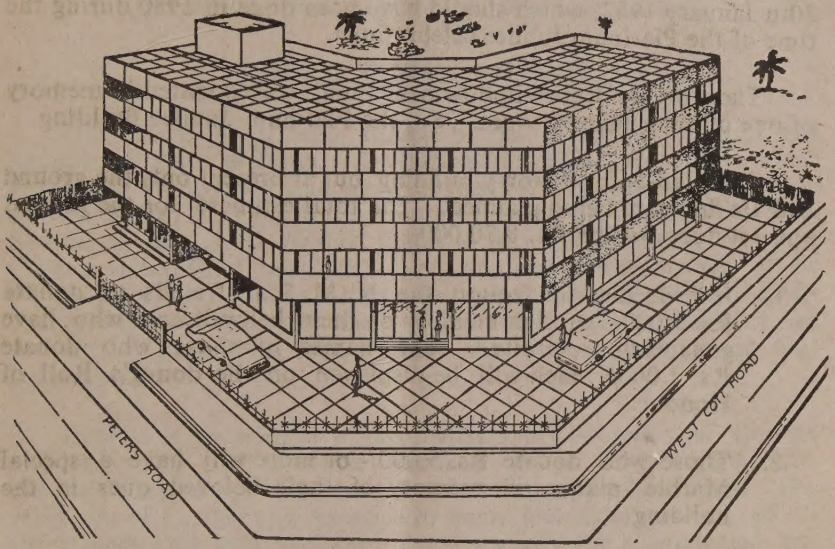
The first group (Mr. Jasper Daniel, Mrs. Grace Sathiaraj, Rev. Jeyapaul David and Rev. Jayasingh and family) reached earlier and waited for the Bishop and his team.

A beautiful house with prayer hall was dedicated by the Bishop. At the dedication all those who were present wished God's blessings on the work. Mr. R. Alfred, the Area Secretary and Mr. M. Aruldoss, the evangelist had done all the needed arrangements.

Praise God for the new house for our evangelist.

Please also praise God for all those who have contributed for the work.

PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING



Long ago in 1955 the N.M.S.I. decided to put up a building in the N.M.S. Campus as "Golden Jubilee Building." The Golden Jubilee in 1955 and Diomond Jubilee in 1965 were celebrated but nothing concrete came up. Every thing was in paper.

During the N.M.S. Triennial Council at Vellore in 1977, it was decided to enhance the salary of workers but there were no funds. By that time, the spirit of God kindled a group of four people in Madras to meet together and pray about this matter. The group met tegether under the leadership of late Mr. G. Solomon and prayed.

After prayer, they decided to raise an endowment fund of Rs. 50,000/- by meeting 50 people and all the four decided to contribute Rs. 1,000/- each called "The Workers Relief Endownment Fund". Immediately they met a few friends and got their assurance to pay Rs. 1,000/- each. Quite a few others also promiscd to give the same amount in memory of their beloved ones.

While this fund raising was going on, the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of the N.M.S.I. were being planned and the old idea

of erecting a building in the N.M.S. Campus also was under study, and the N.M.S.I decided to put up a building as the "The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building." The foundation stone was laid on the 30th January 1982, which should have been done in 1980 during the time of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

The workers Relief Endowment Fund was donated in memory of one of their beloved ones. So, the Platinum Jubilee Building.

The plan is for 4 storey building but at present only the ground and 1st floor are being planned. The total estimate for the ground and 1st floor will be Rs. 8,70,000/-.

1. It is decided to request the N. M. S. I. friends to donate Rs. 1,000/- each in memory of their beloved ones who have gone into eternity. The names of those who donate Rs. 1.000/- each will be displayed on the donor's Roll of Honour.

2. Those who donate Rs. 5,000/- or more will have a special Marble plaque in memory of their beloved ones in the building.

3. To collect donations from those who are interested in the work of the N.M.S. of India.

The Society is taking steps to begin the work as early as possible. The income from this building will be used to enhance the salary of our Missionaries.

Kindly contact the General Secretary for further details. The Society needs all your help and prayers in every step of this great endeavour.

Let us "Expect great things from God and
attempt great things for God"!

General Secretary

KNOW OUR N. M. S. I. (Part XIII)

(Continued from page 12 of December issue)

A CALL TO INDIAN CHRISTIANS

Our hearts have been stirred by the appalling need of the unoccupied fields of India. According to the Census Report there are, in the Bombay Presidency, over thirty Taluks with a population of over 50,000 each without a single Christian or Christian worker. Several of the small Native States in Rajputana, Chota Nagpur, Central India, the Central Provinces and elsewhere have yet to be evangelized. It is estimated that, with the utmost increase of existing missionary agencies, there will be fully 100 millions of the people of India who cannot hear the Gospel message in this generation.

In spite of the earnest work of Missionary Societies of Europe and America, for over one hundred years, to evangelize this country, only one in a hundred is now nominally a Christian. The resources of Europe and America in men and money are taxed to the utmost; and now for some years we hear the oft-repeated cry from various Missionary Boards that there is a deficit in men and money.

This being the case, we are sure you will feel with us that the time has come when the Indian Christian Church should rise to her responsibility for the evangelization of the land. India is ours, and we whom God has called out of this land to be His own are, in a peculiar way, responsible to God for the souls of our countrymen. The command to go and preach the Gospel to every creature is as binding on Indians as on Europeans. Indifference to this supreme command has brought with it in every land stagnation and decay in the Church. If we do not, as a body, rise to this opportunity and fulfil our responsibility in this matter, we cannot long enjoy the blessing of God.

To awaken in our people a national consciousness, to create in them a sense of true patriotism, and to unite in the cause of the evangelization of our country the Indian Christians of our country the Indian Christians of all denominations and provinces, it has been placed in the hearts of many of our brethren to organize a National Missionary Society of India which will be conducted by Indian men, supported by Indian money, and controlled by Indian management. Prominent Indian Christians and many representa-

tative Missionaries from all parts of India, to whom the plan has been suggested, have already signified their cordial approval of this scheme and their readiness to co-operate in furthering the cause when such a Society is organized.

The object of the Society will be to evangelize the unoccupied fields in India and to lay upon our fellow countrymen the burden of responsibility for the evangelization of this land. The general direction of affairs will be placed in the hands of a Council, composed of representative Indians elected by the members from each province together with members representing the larger missions, and one or two missionaries who have deeply at heart the interests of the Indian Church. An Executive Committee appointed by the Council will be situated at one of the Presidency cities, and will have the immediate direction of the work of the Society.

It must be understood that this will not mean the forming of a new Church or denomination. We shall preserve denominational loyalty. As in the China Inland Mission, men of the same denomination will work together, and their converts will be members of their own Church.

One might naturally ask whether we shall get for this enterprise the required men and money. With more than a million Protestant Indian Christians, with large communities in some parts growing in wealth, influence and education, with experience in self-suppprt and self-government our community has gained in many places, we have every reason to hope that the plan will succeed. There are certain communities, churches and even individuals who might easily support a Missionary of their own. Some individual members of our community have already offered, if such a society be formed, to support singly a worker as their representative ; while others have said they will themselves go as workers if the way opens. May we not believe that when the responsibility is placed upon them, our people will respond to this call for men and money to carry the Gospel to our countrymen?

Yours in Christ,

(Signed) **S. Satthianadhan**, Madras.

„ **Harmansingh**, Kupurkala.

„ **K. C. Banurji**, Calcutta.

Salem N.M.S. News.

At the request of Rev. Z. Anbazhagan, the Pastor of the Lechlor Memorial Church Salem, Mr. R. Daniel, the Area Secretary had arranged a meeting for Mrs. Grace Sathiaraj of Bangalore in the church on 29th and 30th October 1983. At the church service on 30th October 1983 Mrs. Grace Sathiaraj spoke about the N.M.S. and its activities. A retiring collection was taken after the service for the work of N.M.S. and a total of Rs. 365-50 was contributed. She spoke in the youth rally of the church too.

On the same evening she was invited to speak at the English Service in the Christ Church by the Rev. Philip Malli. Even there a retiring collection was taken for N.M.S. and the amount came to Rs. 75/-. Both the Christ Church and Lechlor Memorial Church are supporting the work of the N.M.S.

Thanks to all those who have helped in the success of the programme.

R. DANIEL,
Salem Area Secretary.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I.

We are publishing part by part of the booklet written by the founders in 1906. This will help the present day generation to know why N.M.S. was formed.

General Secretary.

OBITUARY

Mr. P. S. John of John Tyres in Cuddalore, S. A. District went to be with the Lord suddenly on 5th December 1983.

He was very active in evangelistic work and church work. He helped me in the N.M.S. work, when I visited Cuddalore in 1972, while I was the Organising Secretary. Praise God for his Christian witness. Pray for his wife, children and grand Children.

Regd. No. M. 609

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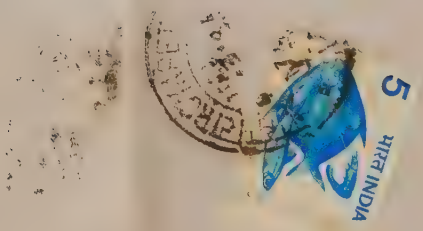
ERRATA

1. December 1983 Page 2 6th line—Please read as "After narrating the background of Jesus" birth,...

2. August and September 1983 (Contributors list) please read as Mrs. P. Netram instead of Mrs. Nathaniel.

3. A few mistakes have occured in publishing the contributors list mainly due to printing mistakes, inspite of the corrections in the proof. Please bear with us.

—General Secretary.



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LIBRARY

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The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Acts : 4:11 to 31

We continue to meditate on the life of Peter, and how he was bold enough to speak about Jesus of Nazareth.

In Vs. 10. Peter asserted that "Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead". But often we hear people talking about the African Christ, American Christ, Asian Christ, Indian Christ and so on. Jesus was brought up in a particular place and he was known as Jesus of Nazareth. He was crucified and he was raised by God. A history is there. And it was based on the experience of Peter. Christ has to become an experience in each individual's life to assert like Peter.

1. Vs. 11-12. The importance of the name.

a) That name has become a corner stone. Jesus is referred to a stone and that too as CORNER STONE. Eph. 2:20. Christ was rejected by religious people who were the builders of the Kingdom of God, on whom they should be building.

b) The name for salvation. Salvation and remission of sins were wrought by shedding of animal blood. Christ became the supreme sacrifice and shed His blood for the salvation of man. Christ is the only saviour, I Cori. 2:2. There is no other name given. Our efforts and good life cannot bring us salvation, but the life of Christ, His death has brought us salvation. Every religion talks of shedding of blood for the remission of sins. In no other religion, the work of salvation is complete except in Christianity and that too in Christ Jesus of Nazareth. No powers of world can free any one from their guilt and sin.

2 Vs. 13 18. The reaction of the Religious leaders.

a) They had to acknowledge and be silent. Vs. 13-14. Peter and the group were considered as ignorant and unlearned ones. It was a fact. Jesus did not select the top intellectuals, but he selected the people who were not so educated with degrees as we the church administrations and missionary administrations select people for work. The other day a Christian referred to me about some evangelists "after all they are 3rd rate men". I am sure the gentleman has forgotten Christ who has called these evangelists for His task. Such statements undermine the simple

evangelists and the one who called such people. It is very interesting to note that "they could say nothing against it" Vs. 14. They were silenced because, the disciples were very bold and the people had to marvel at them, Vs. 14. Let us not despise the people who proclaim the word of God to the unreached ones as the Pharisees and Scribes of Jesus time.

b) Deliberations and decisions of the religious committee. Vs. 15-18. The disciples (Peter and John) were sent out and the authorities of religion had a closed door meeting. They discussed so many things. Does not it take place in our Churches and Christian Organisations? We request the concerned people to go out and discuss about them and take decisions.

They had no idea of what they should do with them. The people were with them. What had been achieved by the disciples were known to every one in Jerusalem. The mighty acts of God could not be undermined. They decided to call them, warn them and send them. CALL, WARN, SEND! They wanted to silence the disciples, who silenced them. They were ordered and told their conditions. They were commanded not to speak about Jesus and His name. Vs. 18. A missionary in N.M.S. was commanded by a local responsible man, to quit from the place within 24 hours. While he was threatening, the responsible man had a telegraphic transfer order to move from that place within 12 hours.

3. Vs. 19-22. Reaction of the Disciples.

a) Refusal of the disciples. They refused to accept the orders of the religious people. Vs. 19-20. They said we need to listen to God rather than men. Recently a well to do man accepted Christ and took baptism. His relatives went and complained to the head of the organisation saying that his man (evangelist) is disturbing the peace in their family and he made their son to be a Christian. The leader and these people were friends. He called the evangelist and questioned him and commanded him not to proclaim the gospel to such people. When the organisation planned another social programme, where many non christians were expected to participate, the evangelist was asked to go on compulsory leave, fearing that he might proclaim the good news. How sad it is. The disciples felt that they should obey God and face the consequence. Are we to be silent or proclaim Him?

b) They were "further threatened" and let go. Vs. 21. The people involved in the mission of Christ were threatened by the

religious people. In fact Christ's message spread under such threatenings. Recently a few letters have come from one of the centres that the people who do not like to listen to the message of Christ have threatened to kill the christians in that area. Threat to Christ and His followers were there from the beginning of christianity. But the Gospel could not be silenced, it penetrated and still penetrates by and through the simple people.

4. Vs. 23-31. The reaction of the Disciples and believers

a) Having let out they went and joined their group. Vs. 23.

b) They reported to the believers what has happened. Vs. 23. They shared this experience with the concerned group. They had a group of people who would stand with them in their tribulations.

c) In oneness they looked to God. Vs. 24-30

They had no other source, except to look to God in prayer. They cried to God for the sake of Jesus. When problems come we look to people for deliverance but are we looking to God ? When others come and share their problems we suggest them solutions but have we looked to God ? Have we prayed with them ? A Secretary of a Christian Organisation shared with another friend of his and said, "I do not find people in our committees to share and pray and he continued and said, even if I share things, they have no mind to pray". What we the people in the churches and organisations need to do is to get together and pray and cry to the Lord God. Do we do this when problems come ?

d) The result. Vs. 31.

As a result of prayer, the place was shaken,

The place where they gathered together,

They were all filled with the Holy Ghost and

They spoke the word of God with boldness.

The silenced group tried to silence the people of God, but they were bold in proclaiming the good news.

May the Lord Jesus strengthen us to be bold in proclaiming Him to the world as the ONLY SAVIOUR of the world for our salvation.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

(We will continue to meditate on Peter's life from the May issue)

GENERAL SECRETARY'S LETTER

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The January issue of the news bulletin was delayed and we could not bring out the February issue. So we are combining it together.

The regular feature of the Mar Thoma Church, the Maramon Convention took place from 12th-19th of Feb. 1984 at the Pamba river sand bed which is in Kerala. The NMS was given a place to put up the Exhibits about the work. Mr. K. Chandy our Organising Secretary for Kerala had arranged it with the leaders. Mr. Pappachan from Kulathupuzha was there to help Mr. K. Chandy. A few minutes were given to me to say about the work of N.M.S. at the morning meeting on the 17th February. Thanks to the Mar Thoma Church leaders and to the Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association leaders for their kindness.

I had informed you through my previous letter that we have selected four more new workers, but only three have joined in the work. Two of them are working with Rev. R. R. Vyas at Basai in M. P.

Mr. Stanley Mohan was dedicated as a missionary at the Kottaram Church (CSI) in Kanyakumari District for the Diocesan Missionary Prayer Band to work with N M.S. Mr. K. Chandy our Kerala Organising Secretary represented the N. M. S. at the dedication Service.

The Rev. S. Jeyapaul David was in Bombay during the month of January 1984 to contact the Tamil friends. Mr. J. P. Ashwal had arranged the programme for him.

I had to go over to Kolhapur to meet the president of N M.S. the Rt Rev. I. P. Andrews. But unfortunately he was admitted in the Miraj Hospital for treatment. The doctors have advised him to have complete rest for another six weeks. He needs our prayers. Being in the hospital the Bishop arranged for me to speak in four churches on 11th March 1984 both in Kolhapur and Miraj. The pastors in the above places welcomed me and allowed me to convey the message and to speak about the N.M.S. work.

The Lent has begun. During this season we mediditate on the sufferings of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As we meditate on His sufferings, let us be reminded that He has suffered for the lost world. May He help us to involve ourselves with Him in His work of redemption.

Our children will be preparing themselves for their annual examinations. I wish and pray that the Lord be with each one of them.

With prayers and best wishes·

Yours in His Service,
(J. M. JAYASINGH)
General Secretary.

If any Branch or Area Committees are keeping their collections for the N.M.S. work, they are kindly requested to remit them to the N.M.S. Headquarters as the financial position of the Society is not good at present and we have to depend on liberal contributions from members who understand our difficulties.

Songs that speak—Part 16

"FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS"

"Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil" (Mathew 4:1)

Years back a teacher was teaching some children a few lenten songs. One of the songs was so beautiful that I was compelled to overhear what she was teaching. I visualised someone kneeling before God and begging for mercy. The beautiful hymn which created that vision before me was the hymn "Forty days and forty nights" composed by G. H. Smythan and F. Pott. The tune which adorned it was Heinlein. It gave me a call—a challenge to be in the midst of this world and yet be undefiled.

STANZA—1

Forty days and forty nights,
Thou wast fasting in the wild.
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.

After his baptism, Jesus was led by the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty full days. He was tested at all the three planes—body, mind and spirit. He overcame the devil and came out victorious. By the disobedience of Adam death entered the world and by the obedience of this second Adam life came into this same world. If we overcome we too will have life.

STANZA—2

Sunbeams scorching all the day:
Chilly dew-drops nightly shed,
Prowling beasts about thy way;
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

In those forty days he bore the heat and cold patiently. He rested with a stone as his pillow on the dry hard earth. The wild beasts provided a frightening atmosphere. Why did he undergo this ordeal? It is not necessary for a sinless soul as Jesus to have this bitter experience. I know that it is for me. He knows what hunger, thirst and pain are. He can sympathise with the sinner. Oh, won't you come to him today?

STANZA—3

Shall not we thy watching share,
And from earthly joy abstain,
Fasting with unceasing prayer,
Glad with thee to suffer pain?

When we watch and pray we share his watchings. When we fast and pray we share his pain to a limited extent. No sacrifice is too great to attain salvation that he has wrought by his passion. Ours is only to accept it as a free gift.

STANZA—4

And if satan vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

Satan will not keep quiet. He is unhappy when a soul turns away from sin. When one prays, satan brings in a lot of pressure on the body and soul. But Jesus had already defeated him. He will give you strength to be steady in your decision to follow him.

STANZA—5

So shall we have peace divine,
Holier gladness ours shall be;
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.

God gives his people his peace and joy. Angels ministered to those who are the children of God. It is your unique privilege to be ministered by the angels provided you accept his salvation.

STANZA—6

Keep, o keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side;
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Easterside.

The hymn ends with a prayer to Jesus. Keep us with Thee oh blessed Saviour! Let us be with thee in life and death. On the happy resurrection morning we will rejoice in thee.

Dear reader, the Lord is calling you. He calls you to leave the perishable behind, and take the eternal ones instead. He has life eternal for you. Repent. Accept his grace and have the joy of eternal life. Amen.

SEARCH OF A HINDU

With the Ekatmata Yagna procession due in the capital any moment we thought it would be a good idea if we could ask some Hindus how they felt about being consolidated at last. So we went to the outskirts of Delhi where the crowds had gathered to receive the processionists expected from Hardwar. We approached a scholarly looking gentleman and explained to him what we wanted.

He gave a pleased smile and said, 'A splendid idea! You must ask the Hindus how they feel about this enterprise. Everybody likes to comment on it, but nobody is asking the Hindus themselves what they think about being united after two thousand years of division'!

That's right, Sir! That's why we approached you, we would like your comments about this to start with!

His manner became apologetic. 'I think it's a good idea of course,' he blurted. 'But I'm afraid you must ask someone else, I'm not exactly a Hindu you see. I'm a Jaini! I came along because I'm very sympathetic to the Hindus'!

We passed along to the next person who was watching the proceedings with boredom. Sir, as a Hindu, would you care to tell the press what you think about this yagna?'

'Don't ask me, ask a Hindu', he replied rudely, 'I've just come here to oblige my mother, she's a Hindu! I don't believe in any of this nonsense myself, I'm totally secular!'

'Oh' we said, considerably dampened. 'Er.....where is your mother?'

'She is coming from Hardwar,' he said bitterly. 'Why do you think I'm waiting here—I have to take her home when this gets over!'

We left him and accusted another person with our question.

'Personally I'm elated that the Hindus are getting united at last,' he said enthusiastically.

Relieved at being able to obtain an interview with a Hindu finally, we hurriedly took out our notebook to jot down his reactions. Why are you elated by this yagna?' we asked.

'Well, it will give a sense of security to the Hindus and help them achieve better relations with us!'

'What! You're not a Hindu?'

'I'm a Sikh', he said proudly. 'Not a kesdhari Sikh of course,' he hastily added. I'm a sejhdhari Sikh!'

Disappointed, we passed on to the next person.

'Sir,' we said suppressing a yawn. As a Hindu, what do you think of this great effort?'

'Not so fast,' he said quickly. I'm not one of those Hindus yet! I'm a Harijan! I would like to see more of what these people do before I decide whether I should join them or not!'

'Oh' we said, and moved on to the next person. Everywhere we went we heard the same thing or something similar. We spent the whole afternoon in the quest of our interview. But we could not find a Hindu. We met backwards, Tamils, Indians, secularists, spectators, politicians, yogis, sadhus, universalists, vedantists and nationalists. But no Hindu. Exhausted and desperate, we looked around. We saw a couple of white skinned foreigners watching the proceedings and the people with rapt attention.

Don't be deceived by what you see', we advised them. 'Actually none of the people present here are Hindus'!

'Whatever do you mean, sir,' they said in astonishment. 'We are Hindus'!

'Really?' we asked in surprise.

But further conversation was not possible. They had commenced dancing to the chant of Hare Krishna.

RAJINDER PURI

(Courtesy : Nagpur Times, November 18, 1983)
Reproduced from N.C.C.I. Review January 1984.

KNOW OUR N. M. S. I. (Part XIII)

(*continued from page 12 of January issue*)

Indian Leaders and the National Missionary Society

(Space permits only a few sentences selected from some of the replies received)

Mr. Coopooswamy Row, Wesleyan Mission, Trivellore, Chingleput District, South India.

"The subject-matter has been in my thoughts for the last three years. We ought certainly to have one National Missionary Society—Indian altogether, and Indian all round, manned, managed, and financed by Indian gold and Indian silver..... It has been said that the Indian Christians number about a million; well, then, let each give but a rupee a year; let each at 1 P.M., lift up his heart, wherever he may be and whatever he may be then doing, in prayer to God for His blessing on all our Missionaries and upon our Missionary Society, and a million united prayers ascending up daily must bring down untold blessings. Go ahead, dear brethren; start on at once; the Master is with you, and He is a good leader."

Miss Lilavathi Singh, Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow.

"It stirred me deeply, and I shall do all I can by prayer and with financial help to support a movement of the kind."

John Malelu, Lalitpur, U. P.

"Thank the Lord heartily for inspiring you to make this important proposal for the evangelization of our country... For several years this thought is working in my mind, and I wondered why our Church did not rise to her responsibility. Now I rejoice that the proposal has at last come forth from you."

Miss Jaikumari Misra, Wanamaker High School, Allahabad.

"I have long desired and felt the need for such a movement among ourselves and I am glad, as well as thankful to God, that His Spirit has influenced some of our Indian leaders to take the initiative in this great cause".

K. Krishna Row, Editor "Christian Patriot," Royapettah, Madras.

"I am delighted with the idea, and the movement has my hearty sympathy..... I would suggest that in addition to the Council and Executive Committee there should be Local Committees organized in all large towns."

Rev. S. V. Karmarkar, B. D., American Marathi Mission, Bombay.

"That such a Society is needed in this great Empire goes without saying. I am in favour of having on the Executive Committee, as well as the Council, Honorary members from Foreign Missionary bodies. I shall give my hearty co-operation.

V. Santiagu, Madura.

"The time has come when the Indian Church ought to rise up to undertake the responsibility of the evangelization of our country. A society of the kind sketched in your letter is very desirable. You may count on my hearty co-operation and help".

M. N. Nath, Calcutta.

"The Society, if formed, will enable our Churches to cast off their lethargy and selfishness, and will prove a great blessing to both the country and the Church ..... We may unite with your proposed National Missionary Society and regard our present Missionary Society as a branch of the same..... No Church can prosper which does not realize its responsibility for furthering the cause of Christ and His Kingdom".

K. N. Basu, M. A., Head Master, C. M. S. High School, Jabalpore, C. P.

"A National Missionary Society of India has my hearty approval and sincere sympathy... India's money must be spent, and Indian Christians must go for the regeneration of India."

Rev. P. B. Ragaviah, College Church, Madras.

"I shall be glad to render all possible support towards the success of the Society contemplated."

R. Siraj-ud-Din, Asst. Prof., F. C. College, Lahore.

"I appreciate the value and see the need of an such an organization. I trust to be able to co-operate and help in the work of such a Society when it has been organized."

Rev. D. Anantham, C. M. S. Bezvada, East Coast.

"I shall be very happy in co-operating with you. Certainly I feel with you that a national movement, on the lines proposed for the evangelization of our land, is most desirable, and, the present seems to be the proper time for it."

S. Chandu Lal, Dalhousie.

"I heartily bless God for having put it into your mind to organize such a good movement. I had been long thinking and wishing that some such thing might be done to show the earnestness of our faith, and our love to our fellow-countrymen-also to make the whole body of Indian Christians bind themselves together in a common cause of such importance and usefulness... Certainly you may count on my co-operation... I think we may be able to find among us many good, devoted and capable men retired from public life, willing to preach the Gospel free, like St. Paul, or at a nominal expense."

(To be continued)

AN INVITATION

If the motorist sounds his horn, you get out of the way; If the fireman clangs his gong, you hasten to safety, yet when God warns you to "flee from the wrath to come" you are indifferent. Is not God's warning worth as much to you as the warnings of men?

If the cook says the food is tainted, you throw it away; If the druggist tells you a thing is poisonous, you beware of it; If the health authorities serve notice that the drinking water you are using is contaminated, you immediately stop drinking it. Yet when God tells you that "the wages of sin is death" you go right on sinning.

If a painter puts up a notice 'WET PAINT' you move cautiously; If a workman hangs out a sign 'DANGER' you keep away; If the authorities post a notice 'NO TRESPASSING' you observe the warning; but when God tells you that "the soul that sinneth it shall die" you turn a deaf ear.

If the doctor says a certain person has a very contagious disease, you need not to be told twice to stay away; If an electrician tells you that an electric cable is a "live wire" you step back and let it

alone; If a lecture bureau says 'No admission without tickets' you make sure and get the kind they require before you approach the entrance; yet when Christ says "Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God" you close your mind against Him and go on in sin.

If a merchant puts a sign over some article saying 'TAKE ONE' you push your way in with the crowd and get it; If a druggist advertises a 'FREE SAMPLE' of anything you hasten to get one before they are all gone; but the Holy Spirit announces that "THE FREE GIFT of God is ETERNAL LIFE through JESUS CHRIST our LORD" you say 'Not just now' although you need it more than anything else in the world. THAT IS WHY MEN ARE LOST.

Religion, good deeds, morality, respectability, culture and ordinances will not save you. You must be born again. Believe God now and accept Jesus as your Master and Lord.

CEPHAS BALIAH

Erode.

FIELD NEWS

JAWADHI HILLS :

Jamnamarathur : Rev. & Mrs. Thiraviam

Mrs. Thiraviam had a safe confinement and God has given them a baby boy in the month of December 1983. Praise God for this gift. Pray for Miss Mallika who is working as a teacher at Kundratti village. The Gospel is being told to her. She is showing interest in the Gospel.

Rev. Thiraviam writes the following :

"Often I visited a religious Hindu family. One day I talked to them many things. While I was about to leave they said, "Thus far you were talking many good things, why don't you pray". So I knelt down for prayer. Immediately the entire family knelt down for prayer."

Kindly pray for this family, that they may accept Christ and be witnesses for Him.

N.B. Mrs. & Rev. Thiraviam are transferred to Veerapanoor. Rev. Thiraviam was working in Veerapanoor till 1979. Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss who were at Kattiankudisai are transferred to Jamnamarathur and Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam from Allery to Kattiankudisai Mr. & Mrs. Charles have been transferred from Veerapanoor to Allery.

Pudur: Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan.

The Rev. Sonny Yesudian of Tamilnad Theological Seminary visited the place at the end of December 1983, when the Christmas programme was conducted. Christmas gifts were given to the children who were present. There were one hundred and twenty children in the meeting apart from a few villagers. Please pray that the Gospel may penetrate in this area.

Kalyanamandai: Mr. M. Jesudas.

Praise God for hearing the prayers and redeeming three demon possessed people from the bondage of devil. Praise God for the man from Chalamudi Village who confessed Christ. He openly witnessed to his people that Jesus has given him victory over drinking and evil habits. Pray that this man may stand firm in the love of the Lord. During the month 21 villages were visited. People listened the Gospel messages attentively.

Athipattu: Mr. & Mrs. James Meyyan.

Mr. Meyyan writes that eight people are being prepared for baptism. Please pray that these eight people may be strengthened in their faith. One Mr. Govindan has accepted Christ. Please pray for his spiritual growth.

Gundalathur: Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Jeyaraj.

During the month of January 1984, 86 people were treated and most of them were healed. To every one Gospel was told.

A sorcerer named Kolanthai Gounder of Nellimarathur Village was ill. His legs and fingers had no feeling. He was told about Christ and was treated and he is better. Because of this there is response in the villages. Pray that the Sorcerer may be converted and the whole village may turn to Christ. There are others also who were healed and the response from the people to hear the God's word has increased. Mr. Jayaraj has requested prayers for the following persons, who were contacted personally :

Messrs. Kuppa Gounder, Kolathai Gounder, Churuttain and. Paul Kannan. Please pray for these friends.

Allery : Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam

Christmas programme was conducted in the month of Decembe r About 300 people attended the programmes. A drama was enacted based on biblical stories by the night school students. Five of the N.M.S. evangelists also participated in the programme.

Mr. Iyyasami had a court case and he won it. He believes that it is by the mercy of Jesus Christ only and he is prepared for baptism, but his parents are telling that it is their family god who has helped him and blocking him in taking baptism.

The people of the village are realizing the power of prayer. Please pray that the people may experience the love of Christ in their lives. Pray for Mr. & Mrs. Charles who have taken charge of this area and the work.

Kattiankudisai : Mr. M. Aruldoss.

Mr. John Muthusamy who was baptised is backsliding. He needs our prayers. Pray for Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam, who have taken charge of this area and the work.

Thongumalai : Mr. & Mrs. Ananda Chandrasekaran.

A child was brought for prayer from Pullaiar Kuttai Village. The Lord healed the child. Praise God for this.

One of the converts had no job to maintain himself. We prayed for him and he got a watchman's job in the Forest Department. Praise God. Please pray for the following :

1. There are about fifteen people coming to study.
2. People of five villages who heard the Gospel message.

Nadanoor : Mr. G. A Raju and Mr. Victor Gnanarajan.

They have visited about thirteen villages in the month of January 1984. A few people have asked explanations about the message they have proclaimed. Please pray for Mr. Kuzhanthai

and his family who accepted Christ and for Mr. Vellaian who is ready for baptism. The center needs the following.

(1) a loudspeaker horn

(2) 10 New Testaments.

(3) five Bibles.

(4) one Drum.

Kulathupuzha : Mr. & Mrs. Pappachan and
Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

A tuition class is conducted in one of the tribal villages known as Pottamavu, where the gospel is explained to the children. The parents are contacted with the Gospel. Please pray for Mr. Kumpikani, Mr. Sekaran Kani, Kunju Kishnan Kani and for those people who are regularly contacted.

A few of the Tamil Repatriates from Sri Lanka have expressed their willingness to take baptism. They have also contacted two backslidden Christians, who have confessed their sins. Please pray for them.

Basai : Rev. R. R. Vyas

There was a mela in Basai and a team of nine people helped Rev. R. R. Vyas in proclaiming Christ to the people who come for the Mela. He states:—

"We had wonderful meetings at the Mela and thousands of people heard God's messages. Some young people opposed the work, but still God gave us victory. A respected man called us to pray. He has a daughter who cannot speak and hear. We went to his house and prayed for his daughter".

Prayers are requested for her.

At Lekra Village a mason named Govind has accepted Christ. He needs our prayers. Some of the planned programmes had to be cancelled because of the cold wave.

Two new evangelists have joined at Basai for work. They are Mr. Yovab Singh and Mr. Stanley Mohan. They have to learn the language and adjust themselves to the new situation. Please pray for them, so that they may not be discouraged.

Nepal :

We need two evangelists to work in Nepal. Please pray that we may get committed people to proclaim the good news.

Puri : Orissa : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi writes :

"New people are coming to church".

Nookaraju, Balamma and Lukaraju, who had had different diseases came and prayed. The following have accepted Christ as familes.

1. Gurumoorty. 2. Nookaraju, 3. Chandra, 4. Durgama.

Please pray for the above and their families that they may grow in His grace.

Kota : Rajasthan Mr. Barun Saumi.

Mr Saumi is little bit discouraged, because he could not see any result in his work. Quite often he faces opposition from different groups. He has requested each one of us to pray for him.

Hebri : Karnattaka; Mr. Eric Wilson and Mr. Godfrey Soans,

They write that the people from different areas have visited Hebri to purchase cattle and some of them were contacted with the gospel. They have requested as follows :

"Please pray for the people of Kesanmakki, who welcomed us into their houses during our tour. They anxiously heard the message and purchased the books and said, "This is fact about God and we agree that there is only one God". We visited twenty two houses in that area."

Your prayers are requested for the following people.

1. For the people of Kesanmakki, who are interested in the Gospel.

2. For Mr. Boja Hegde, Mr. Nagappa Chetty and Mr. Ramanna Hegde.

NB : Your prayers are requested for the work in Kashmir, Sikkim, Bageshwar and West Bengal. The reports will appear in the April issue of the N.M.S.

Church News :

The Church of South India Synod, which met at Secunderabad re-elected the office-bearers for another term of service.

The Most Rev. I. Jesudasan, Moderator,

The Rt. Rev. Sundar Clarke, Deputy Moderator,

The Rev. M. Azariah, Secretary.

Mr. John Varghese, Hon. Treasurer.

May the Lord grant them the Wisdom to guide the Church.

The N M S congratulates them and prays for them.

OBITUARY

Mr. K. V. Cherian, of Navajeevodayam Tiruvella, Kerala expired on 20th February 1984 after a heart attack. He was 74.

Mr. Cherian began his ministry in N.M.S. as home missionary in Tinnanur. While he was working in Government in Madras he

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felt the call of God and resigned his job and joined the N.M S. His wife also was incharge of the hostel. Both of them worked in N.M S. from 1945-1951. Then Mr. Cherian went to Kerala and started the Navajeevodayam work. He was the founder of India Evangelize Fellowship, which supports the N.M.S work in Sikkim and a few other missions. He was responsible for starting and conducting the Keswick convention in Tiruvella, which is an annual feature. It is noteworthy that God used him to bring many souls to the Lord and their lives were changed.

The burial service was conducted by the most Rev. Alexander Mar Thoma, Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church. There were many people who spoke about him. Mr. Chandy our Kerala Organising Secretary spoke a few words about him representing the N.M.S.

Praise God for his life and ministry and pray for Mrs. Cherian and children and for the ministry which he had started.

●

Mrs. Lily Ratnam Annathai Bonnell W/O Prof. B. Bonnell of Tambaram and mother-in-law of Rev. Dr. Jeans I. Jeyachandran of St Thomas Garrison Church, of St. Thomas Mount passed away peacefully on 20-2-1984 Her mortal remains were interred in the Kilpauk Cemetery after the funeral service at St. Paul's Church, Vepery, the following day.

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The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Math. 28: 1-10, Mark. 16: 1-10, Luke. 24: 1-12, John. 20:1-10.

The climax reached on Good Friday, as to the thinking of the Jewish religious heads; but to their dismay and disappointment the resurrection took place on the first day of the week. Without the resurrection of Christ Jesus of Nazareth, there would be no Christianity. The basic fundamental foundation of Chistianity is the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

A few years back I had the privilege of meeting an elderly learned man, who had held high positions in the Central Government. While in discussion with one another, he professed to be a Christian. He said very politely but grimly "I do not believe in creation; its' a myth; "I do not believe in virgin birth, I also have no faith in the resurrection of Jesus. As I was surprised and shocked at his statements I told him "If so, you have no business to call yourself a Christian". He had come to this conclusion because of the Western liberal theological thinking. But the main reason is that he had no personal experience of Jesus Christ. Even today there are many Christians who do not have conviction and faith in Jesus Christ. Recently I met an High School teacher, who said that Jesus was an ordinary man, His teachings are good and every thing ended by his death. He also said that he is from a traditional Christian family.

The above biblical passages inform us that Christ was resurrected People who went to the tomb to see his body had the privilege of visiting only an empty tomb and to them it was said "He is risen and He is not here".

It was an unbelievable incident. They were stunned. But Christ revealed himself to them and they believed in Him. It became their experience in their life. The resurrection gave them hope about future. That hope became a force in their daily life. It moved them to proclaim it to others with a firm conviction.

The resurrected Christ changed their outlook in their life. They were expecting a political Messiah, but now they could see him as the one who had power over death. To any Christian, who really trust in Him, death is not an end to his life but a new beginning and life does not end with death.

Death makes us sad and sorrowful. We mourn when some of our beloved ones pass away. For years together we go without any

consolation. It is just because, we do not have the faith that they will be resurrected and that we too will pass through the same way.

The resurrection of Jesus became a daily experience in the lives of the early Christians. His presence gave them courage to face the world and proclaim Him to others.

An young lady lost her husband. Both were believers. They had a child who was 2 years old. They used to proclaim the love of Jesus to others. When the husband died, the lady and the child were left alone, but the lady trusted in the living Saviour. Her son grew up and the relatives arranged for his wedding, and it took place. The Lord had told the mother, not to be so happy over the wedding of her son, but to be ready to face death. On the eighth day of the marriage, her son died. The mother had the consolation from the Lord and she became a witness and proclaimed the living Saviour to many people. The hope of resurrection encouraged her to witness Him.

May the Lord enable us to be witnesses of His resurrection in our daily lives.

J. M. JAYASINGH,

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It was on the 1st April 1971, I came to N.M.S. as organising Secretary and by March 31st 1984 and I have completed 13 years of service with the N.M.S. I am indeed grateful to God for enabling me to be in the Society. If I have done any substantial work, I have done it for God's glory. Let His name be praised. Because of this long term of service in N.M.S. I have lost the lien in the Diocese, but The Bishop (Kanyakumari) has kindly given the permission to work in any other Diocese or in organisations till the retirement age. Thanks to him for his permission.

I had expressed in the January issue of the N.M.I. about the financial crisis, which the Society was facing. In answer to the prayers of many, God supplied all the needs of the Society to end

the budget year without any deficit. Praise to His name. Many of you have responded to the appeal and prayed for the needs and sent your contributions. May the Lord of Missions bless you and keep you as witness for Him.

During this month I had the privilege of visiting Kandali a new area near Thirupathur, where we are planning to begin the work. I also had the privilege of meeting the St. John's Church members in Vellore. They are supporting the work in Nadanoor. As Church they are planning to start an institute to train the people in Tailoring and Carpentry. They also intend to develop the medical work in Jawadhi Hills. As a church they may support one missionary in North India.

During the Holy week, I was in Erode and Dharapuram. I am thankful to the Presbyters and Church Committee members for inviting me for the Holy week programmes and for the convention at Dharapuram.

On 24th April, we have interviewed a few people for appointment and selected 3 people for the field and one for the organising work. They will be joining from the 1st of June 1984. Friends are requested to pray to the Lord for the following :—

1) For all the evangelists in the fields.

2) For the new recruits.

3) For the needed funds for the work.

We are also undertaking the construction of girl's hostel at Jamnamarathur. This year we are arranging to have 20 girls. For each girl it will cost Rs. 70/- to 80/- per month. A few friends have pledged thier support. Yet we need support for another 13 girls. Will you pledge your support for one girl.

I trust that you will continue to uphold the Society, and its ministry in your daily prayers.

May the Lord keep us up in the spirit of resurrection.

Yours in His Service,

Thanking you.

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

KNOW OUR N. M. S. I. Part XIX

Rev. Francis Kingsbury, Pasumalai, South India.

"It is my conviction that it is high time for the Indian Church to undertake the responsibility of the evangelization of our country... God helping me, most certainly I will do all I can for the Society. I feel it is not right for Europe and America to deprive the Indian Church of doing her part for the conversion of the land."

B. C. Ghose, Lahore,

"I believe that it is high time for the Indian Church to do something towards the evangelization of India.

I shall be very glad to do whatever lies in my power."

Prabhu Das, Jumna Colleges, Allahabad.

"I am in receipt of the heart-stirring appeal for the organization of a National Missionary Society of India.

There is need of the Indian Church rising to undertake the responsibility of the evangelization of our country. I think the sketch of the proposed Society is what is desirable."

Rev. B. M. Mozumdar, Methodist Episcopal Church, Midnapur.

"I am very pleased to know that there is such a movement among the Christians of India, and I sincerely pray for its success".

Rev. J. M. Gulam Masih, A. P. Mission, Manipur, U.P.

"I was extremely delighted to read your letter, and I think God has inspired the hearts of our prominent Christian brethren to plan for this grand work of evangelization of our own land."

Jacob Salce, Ahmednagar.

"There is great need of the Indian Church rising to undertake the responsibility of the evangelization of our country. A Society of the kind sketched in your letter is very desirable."

Raj Maya Das, R. B. Ferozepore.

"I am in full sympathy with the views expressed in your letter"

J. Fieldbrave, Allahabad.

"The more I prayed and thought over the matter, the more I was impressed that the movement is not from men but from God.., I feel inpiration to devote my life for it."

K. M. Abraham, The Syrian Seminary, Tiruvalla, Travancore.

"It will surely make an impression upon the minds of non-Christians that, though the Church is divided, yet in reality it is one. This is needed in a land like India. I am glad to inform you that our Reformed Syrian Church in Travancore, and all prominent members, will co-operate in furthering the cause. If the Lord shows me that I must be a worker under this Society I am ready to do so."

P. Zacharias, Calicut.

"Should the Society be formed, you may count upon my humble co-operation and help".

D. Y. Mathan, Poona.

"I am very glad to find that God it prompting our people to take up the work...A National Missionary Society is just the kind of organization that is wanted to carry on definite work. I promise to do all that I can to help forward the movement. Friends to whom I have spoken about it have all spoken highly in favour of it."

A. M. Sangle, Ahmednagar, Deccan.

A Society of this kind sketched is very desirable ...Yes, count on my humhle co-operation and help in the matter."

Rev. Ruttonjee Nowroji, Panchgani, Bombay Presidency.

"I heartily rejoice, and praise God that He had put into your hearts to take active steps to meet the great need of the unoccupied fields of India. I am deeply convinced that there is a real need, a growing and pressing need, of an Evangelist Missionary Society being established, to be conducted by Indian men, and supported by Indian money.

J. K. Chinnatamby, Jaffna, Ceylon.

"Evangelization of India by Indians is not only a charmingly pleasant idea, but to my mind it is the only possible way of realizing it. I can never believe that India or any other country can be fully evangelized by foreigners. There will be a saving of time, labour, and money to the Christian world when the work is taken up by the sons of the land... Considering not only the interests of the heathen around but also the interests of our Churches, this is the greatest present need. Our churches will thrive materially and spiritually only after they rise to undertake this responsibility. I am fully in sympathy with the movement, and shall ever be ready to help the cause forward."

Rev. N. Gnanapragasam S. P. G, Salem.

"The time has come when Indians should do some such thing as indicated in the circular. That would show that Christianity has taken root in India, and that Christianity is something real to us. In the Providence of God it might have the effect of creating a spirit of earnest inquiry in our countrymen, seeing that their own countrymen and not foreigners only are endeavouring to propagate the religion of Jesus Christ." *(Continued)*

FIELD REPORTS

JAWADHI HILLS:

Veerapanoor: Mr. & Mrs. Thiraviam.

Mr. & Mrs. Thiraviam have moved to the place and begun contacting the people. The house-cum-chapel work need to be started. Kindly pray for Mr. Shanmugam who is growing in Grace in spite of the discouragements from his people.

Jamnamarathur: Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss.

There is progress in the work at Jamnamarathur. More children are coming for the Sunday School and night school. They are from Muslim, Hindu and Tribal families. The girls' hostel will be closed by the end of this month. Prayer is requested for the children who attend the Sunday School and night school and the hostel girls who will be going home for holidays so that they may keep up their testimony among their own people.

Athipat: Mr. & Mrs. O. James Meyyan.

In the month of February, they have visited the villages and contacted 143 people individually. Prayers are requested for converts, seekers and others who oppose gospel proclamation.

Kalyanamandai: Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Praise God for the converts who are growing in Grace. Praise God for the response he had from differnent areas. An advocate at Nayakanur expressed that he would like to come to Jesus. Two women who were possessed by evil spirits were redeemed.

At Krishnapuram Village, a family has accepted Christ and they need our prayers.

Gundalathur : Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel

" Mr. Chinnapiyyan told us that he had a dream in which Jesus came and spoke to him. He wanted to dig a well in his land. He asked me repeatedly to find a water diviner. I told him that God is the Creator of the nature. He can do everything and I explained to him Ps. 114:8

One midnight he saw a vision. He saw that Jesus was wearing a garment from feet to neck. His face was like golden colour. Around Him there was brightness. He could not look at Him because of the brightness. Jesus spoke to him saying "I know your desire, you dig the well, in the place where I am pointing". Next day morning he had marked that spot in his land, He is coming to the Lord."

At Tekkamarathur Village people listened to the Gospel. About 30 women of the village listened to the Gospel and they have requested me to visit them again. The women are worried about the way in which their husbands and children are living. Pray that the immorality prevailing in the hills may come to an end."

The house where our evangelist and his family is living needs immediate repairs. It will cost ahout Rs. 15,000/- to put up the house with tiled roof. Friends are requested to pray for this.

If any one or as family is willing to construct a house for the Evangelist at Gundalathur in memory of their beloved ones, they may contact the General Secretary. It will cost around Rs. 15,000/-

90 patients were treated during February 1984 and most of them were healed. Praise God for this.

Kattiankudisai : Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam

They have taken charge of the work from 1st of March. Mr. Aruldoss in his report about the work in the area has written that he has visited eight villages and contacted 75 people individually. He report "At velliyur an old man called 'Vellayan' (70 years old) is very much interested about our visits to his village. I told him about the miracles of our Saviour. After having talked to him and prayed with him, he began to kneel down to pray. Kindly pray for him."

Nadanoor: Messers G. A. Raju & Victor Gnanarajan

During the month of February Mr. Raju has visited 8 villages and contacted 300 people with the Gospel of Christ. He could treat about 85 people. A few people have said that they have accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Dr. Pulimood, Mr. Aruldoss and others from St. John's Church visited and encouraged the work. As St. John's Church Vellore, they are planning for training the Villagers in tailoring, carpentry and first aid. They have selected a few women for first aid training and a short course has been started in Vellore.

Please pray that these projects may help the villagers.

Thongumalai: Mr & Mrs Ananda Chandrasekaran

He has concentrated on 10 villages and about 200 people were contacted. Cottage prayer meetings were held. Please pray for the following:

1. Mr. Narayanan and his family, who are being prepared for baptism and facing problems. His cow died and his people are opposing him because he follows Jesus. By the present troubles his faith may not be changed.

2. A woman known as Chinna Pillai, is possessed with evil spirits Pray that she may be delivered.

3. The viilage head is blocking the children who come for classes. He drinks and creates problems in the home too. Pray that his life may be changed.

Allery: Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles

Mr. Charles and his family have taken charge of the work from 1st of March. Mr. Devairakkam has written that a few people looked to God for their material things and God heard their prayers, because their prayers are answered, they are attached to Jesus Christ.

Prayers are requested for the following:

1. Mr. Koossan's daughter Chandrika who under went an operation in the hospital to remove ulcer from her stomach, and who had no hope of survival, But she prayed to Jesus and He heard her prayer and she was healed. Now she attends the church Services.

2. Mr. Muthumani, who lived a bad life had to face many court cases. Even now he faces a court case. But now he listens to the word of God and his life is changed. He attends the Service regularly. Pray that his life may be completely changed and he may be a witness for Christ.

3. Mr. John who took baptism in 1981 went back to his old faith in order to get the share of his property. He needs to come back. Pray that others who took baptism in 1981 may stand firm in their faith in Jesus Christ.

Pudur : Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan

They were forced to vacate the building where they were living. This is because of the opposition to Gospel. The Headmaster of the local School, who is a Christian also is given trouble. A girl who confessed Christ was stabbed. Our prayers are urgently solicited. Thus far the Lord protected our people.

1) Pray for the enemies of the gospel.

2) Pray for the Headmaster and his family and Mr. Velmurugan and his family.

3) Pray that we may be able to purchase a piece of land and construct a house.

Kulathupuzha : Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan

The centre was visited by Mr K. Chandy which was helpful to the evangelists. People are eager to hear the word of God. Pray that the people may accept Jesus as Lord and Savioua Jesus Christ.

Kotta : Mr. Barun Kumar Saumi

He writes..."Kota has become very dangerious... People are terror stricken". Please pray that there will be no danger to the persons proclaiming the good news and also the people may live in harmony.

Bihar Shariff: Mr. & Mrs. Wahdi

Pray for the believers and seekers from the villages. Pray for Mrs. Amna, who was punished for her faith by her husband. Mr. Wahdi has visited 24 places and distributed tracts and Gospel portions. Pray that the distributed literature may be read by the people and they may find Christ.

Dr. Kamala Prasad of Jaimalpure church visited Mr. Wahdi and family on her way to Ranchi.

Nolayasahi : Puri Mr. & Hrs, Daud Saugar

He writes... "I am visiting Hindu families. Many Hindus are attending our prayer meetings Some of them are saying that really your Jesus religion is good, but due to their family obstacles and fear of their Hindu Samaj they are unable to accept Jesus Christ as their saviour and Lord. Really I am burdened about them for their salvation. They are very backward". Please pray that the people of Nolayasahi may find Christ.

Mr. Daud Saugar has been asked by the house owner to vacate the house. Please pray that he may get a house to live in.

Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi

Has requested special prayers for the work in Puri area. He has not given us any details. Let us pray that there will not be any blockade from any corner for the Gospel work.

The church services, cottage prayer meetings and school work are the regular features of the work in Puri. The cottage prayer meetings are attended by the non-christians. Pray that these friends may find Christ in and through these prayer meetings.

Malligachi :

Needs an evangelist, who would go with his family. At prerent Mr. N. C. Ghosh is teaching children. Please pray that we may be able to appoint an evangelist in Malligachi.

Ludhiana : Punjab Miss Salina Rakha

Miss Salina Writes "In the morning I go to the market where labourers are found and I preach them the word of God and also talk to them. In the afternoon during lunch time I go to the bus-stands and Railway Station where I preach the word of God to the passengers and distribute the tracts". She has also written that she has distributed 5000 tracts and 500 gospels.

Please Pray for her efforts in reaching the people of Punjab.

She needs a Walkie Talkie for her work.

Basai : M.P. Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Yovab Singh, Mr. Stanley Mohan.

Rev. Vyas writes that the new evangelists Mr. Mohan and Mr. Yovab Singh are picking up the language and they have got a house to live in Basai. Please pray for the work in Basai area and for the new evangelists.

Particularly for their health and they may adjust to the new situation.

Kashmir : Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih & Mr. Aaron Malick

The Rev. Yonathan Paljore writes "Tahir's wife had a child and after eight days it died. He told me when he was in the village his wife's relative a lady, who was a secret believer has disclosed her faith to her father. The father had beaten her and her husband and children and turned them all out from the house. They came to Tahir's house and stayed there. The husband and wife and their children had to share the limited bed of Tahir's family. Any how the next day the father of the girl came and took them back home. Praise the Lord the girl and her husband have been more strengthened in their faith. Such occurrences occur often but Tahir does not mention me much."

"Mr. Malick arrived back but he told me that his father is admitted in the All India institute for operation. This he had discovered in Delhi through a telephone call, so he has gone back to Delhi to see his Father".

Please continue to uphold these friends in your prayers.

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

Mr. Ranjit Kumar: Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

He writes "My heart is full of gratitude, the way God has helped me to carry out my work for His Glory in the past 5 months. I am glad to report that I have been able to educate the people and put life in the N.M.S. activities wherever I went I am glad I am fulfilling the objectives of the N.M S. by my constant contacts with people, churches and friends of the N.M.S.

During my visits I have revived the following old branches. Gorakhpur, Gonda, Bareilly, Varanasi and Rae Bareilly, Meerut and Moradabad.

The branches Viz. Lucknow, Kanpur, Allahabad and Jhansi are the only active branches and are supporting the N.M.S. Besides this some donations were raised from other places in response to the U.P. Area Secretary Mr. A. H. Khan's appeal I have formed new branches in the following places. Basti, Shajahanpur, Kachwa, Mughal Sarai and Deoria".

Mr. Ranjit has participated in the N.M.S. Sunday programmes and also had conducted some N.M.S. conventions. He had the opportunity of speaking in the All India Conference of the operation Mobilization. Mr. Ranjit Kumar and Mr. F. S. Charles will be incharge of the Hindi N.M.S. news bullet in which will be released by this month. They need your prayers.

Mr. F. S. Charles: Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

Mr. Charles has formed another N.M.S. branch at Sagar and the leaders are Rev. S. K. Ghosh (President) Mr. A. G. Singh (Vice-President) Mr. David Area (Secretary) Mrs. M. W. P. Mathew (Joint Secretary) Mr. O. Augustin (Treasurer) M/S. F. Gunney, V. David, Cornelius. W P. Mathews, Silas Issac, Mrs. U. D. Asra (members).

Mr. F. S. Charles attended the CARVS meeting representing the General Secretary.

The following branches exist in M. Pradesh. Bina Sagar, Damoh, Jabalpur, Bargi, Narasingh Pur, Ratlam and Indore.

The reports from other Organising Secretaries will appear in the next issue of the N.M.I.

General Secretary

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CHURCH NEWS

1) The Rev. M. Samuel was consecrated as the 2nd Bishop of the Arcot Lutheran Church on 9—1—1984. The N.M.S.I. Congratulates him and assures him of its prayers.

2) The Rev. Nedi Max Bagh was consecrated as the Bishop of Patna Diocese of the Church of North India on 2nd March 1984. The N.M.S.I. congratulates him and assures him of its prayers.

OBITUARY

1. Dr, Soroj Kumar Pramanik of Puri slept in Christ suddenly on 25th January 1984. He was the Secretary and President of the local N.M.S. branch and was of a great help to our work. He was a leader in the Oriya Baptist church in Puri.

2) Dr. C. B. E. Arthur M.B.B.S. of Nagapattinam entered his heavenly abode suddenly on 26—3—1984. He was a towerings strength to the church and all the C.S.I. institutions in Nagapattinam. He was also a strong supporter of N.M.S.

3. Smt. Mini Bai Nathan, of Damoh M.P. went to be with the Lord on 16th March 1984. She is the mother of of Mr. R. K. Nathan, Treasurer of the Damoh N.M.S. branch.

4. Mrs. D. Peter of Jhansi expired on 24—3—84 due to old age. She was a supporter of the N.M.S. both by prayer and contribution. Mrs. R. R. Vyas is the niece of Mrs. D. Peter.

As society we thank God for their Christian witness and we pray that the God Almighty may comfort and console the members of their families. The family members are requested to continue their prayer and financial support to the Society.

General Secretary.

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LATE NEWS : Miss Vasantha Kumari David of Madras has gone to Maharastra as the first woman missionary from Madras. She will be working at Kagal in Maharasntra.

G.S.

The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

ACTS 5 : 1-11.

Acts 4:32-37 refer about the oneness among the believers and their concern for one another. There were many who had to give up their homes because they followed Christ. The believers had the concern for one another and they sold their belongings and brought the money to the Apostles. Barnabas sold every thing and brought the cost of it to the apostles as an example.

I Decision and action of Ananias and Sapphira 5:1-2

Having seen about the happenings, a couple named Ananias and Sapphira also sold their belongings. Probably it was a temptation to show them off. Vs. 2—reflects their action as not a wholehearted one. Both had joined together. Definitely the suggestion to do like this was from one side, and both agreed to keep a portion of the earnings at home and the rest to be laid down at the feet of the apostles. Their decision must have been to lay everything at the feet of the apostles. A commendable decision; but having joined together they kept back a portion. They failed to honour their decisions.

2. Peter confronting the couple, Vs. 3, 4 and 7-9

Ananias came early and laid down at the feet of the apostle of what he had brought, but the spirit of God was in action through Peter. He was revealed of what they had done and Peter faced him with a few questions :—

1. Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit to keep back part of the price of the land ?

2. While it remained, was it not thine own ?

3. And after it was sold, was it not in thine own power ?

4. Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart ?

Having asked the above 4 questions Peter continued to say "You did not lie to man but to God" (Vs. 4)

Peter faced his wife Sapphire too with the same issue.

With her Peter asked two questions:—

1. Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much?
2. How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the spirit of the Lord?

Deliberate planning with one another made them to lie against the spirit of God. They could be honest and openly express that they had kept a portion at home. God expects honesty and openness. The Spirit of God used Peter to deal with people directly. A question comes to me often. Are we, who are called to be His children and servants have the guts to obey the spirit of God in facing the people? Have we not covered up things? Have we not planned against one another at the back, but when we see each other have we not shown our smiling face, and yet having hatred inside?

II Punishment, Vs. 5-6, 9-10

While Peter questioned both fell down and gave up their life. They were not able to defend themselves when Peter confronted them. Both had to meet with the same fate Both had the opportunity to say that they had sinned and pleaded for forgiveness, Since they were committed to each other in the decision taken to keep back a portion, both of them lied and did not want to be honest. They thought that they could hide things before men and God, but it was impossible. Deliberate lies may help us for the time being, but the punishment will be waiting at the door step. Here a question arises. Why such things are not happening today in the churches and institutions. The only answer I can give is, God is waiting to save us, in case we repent. His love and long suffering makes Him to wait. But we are reminded not to keep Him wait but to repent. If we do not repent punishment may come tomorrow or day after, if not today. Some people are experts in cheating others and yet they forget that they are cheating themselves. Let none of us fall into such a situation.

III Fear Prevailed Vs. 5 and 11

The incident made the believers and others to fear. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom Ps 111:10. The fear of God is indicated in the Bible repeatedly. There was no sense of the fear of God in the lives of Ananias and Sapphira. They had forgotten the presence of God while they planned. A man who cannot realize the presence of God cannot have fear of God in his/her life.

We seem to take it for granted that our God is a God of love and forget to realize the punishment which awaits us. We who are in the modern world have no fear of anything. Once a boy of 3 years old said "I am not afraid of anything but I am afraid of the cane only," because of the punishment. Do we realize that there will be punishment for our unrepentable and ungodly and disobedient life.

In conclusion I would like to state the following incident :

A couple dedicated their eldest son for full time ministry. They gave him good education, which was beyond their means. When he took his B. A. degree, the parents said, now let us look for a job and let our son do the ministry being in a Government job. Some may ask what is wrong in doing so. But the original decision was to send him for full time ministry. By changing such decisions we dishonour the promise given to God. The young man got a teaching job but within a few years he met with a fatal accident and died. The young man also wanted to go for ministry but had to obey the parents. God minds if we dishonour our promises with Him.

When we plan and make decisions we make it in the presence of God and we need to honour God. Breaking our promises to men and God is dishonouring the very presence of God in our day to day life. May He help us to fulfil and Honour Him by our decisions and promises.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTFR FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I was away in Trivandrum and in Parasuvaikal for my annual holidays, but on my way I had 3 days meetings at Kuttapuzha Mar Tho na Church in Tiruvalla and for four days at Kazhakoottam C.S.I. Church from 24th to 27th of May 1984. I had the opportunity to enlighten the church members about the N.M.S.

Mr. Aaron Mallick, who was working in Kargil area along with Mr. Elijah Gergan has resigned from N.M.S. stating that he is joining a Bible College.

The work in Kashmir and other places are progressing but the Society needs people to go into different places to work for the Lord. We have appointed the Rev. P J. Victor of Krishna Godavari Diocese to work as Organising Secretary for Andhra. His address is as follows :

Rev. P. J. VICTOR,
C/o. Mr. M ASSERVADAM,
Door No. 6-25, Kammah Thoppu,
Vasanthanagar, P. O.
Vijayawada-520 007.

Miss Vasantha Kumari David M.Sc.B.D. is selected for work in Maharastra. She is from Madras. A place has to be fixed for her. The work in Jawadhi Hills, particularly at Pudur area was threatened and for the time being we have stopped the work in that area, but the centre is not closed. Mr & Mrs. Velmurugan will be concentrating in a new area 10 miles interior from Vaniambadi to work among the Suhalees (Lambadiees)

The Rev. Dn. Thiraviam is transferred to Kandali near Thirupattur to work in the villages.

During my visit two new N.M.S. branches were formed, one at Ikkadu and another at Tirupattur. The local Presbyters were of a great help to me in forming the branches.

I was in Jamnamarathur to conduct the monthly meeting of the evangelists in Jawadhi Hills. As per the reports a few people are being prepared for baptism. The hostel has 20 girls and we have support for only for 7 girls. It will cost about Rs. 70/- per month for a girl. Would you like to support one of the girls and if so, you are requested to contact me. The budget provision is made only for 20 girls. There are a few who are seeking admission. The hostel building work is in progress.

The N.M.S. Hindi news bulletin was released in Lucknow by Bishop Parmer of the Methodist church on the Easter day. The second issue will be released very soon. I do thank God for this new and revived venture. I am also thankful to Mr. Ranjit Kumar, our Organising Secretary for taking up this work. He is guided by Mr. A H. Khan, the Hon. Associate General Secretary. Those who need the N.M.S. news in Hindi may contact Mr. Ranjit Kumar :

C/o. Mr. A. H. KHAN,
Lalbagh, Nur Manzil,
Lucknow (UP)-226 001.

The newspapers alarmed us with the news from Punjab. It is very sad to note that the religious centres are filled with weapons for destruction. Religious centres should be places of peace and happiness and where people try to meet God. Let us pray for the peace in disturbed areas and people may love and live together in communal harmony.

Another school year has begun and our children have gone to schools. Let the Lord give them the needed wisdom and strength to study their lessons.

As I close this letter I feel that we Christians need to be alert in all respects and live as Christians with a determination to proclaim the good news. Let our endeavour for Him be blessed.

With prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

KINDLY NOTE:

The Life Membership fee in N.M.S. is revised to Rs. 200/- and you are invited to join the N.M.S. in its ongoing work.

General Secretary.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. Part XX

The Opinion of Representative Missionaries

Before going forward with the organization of a National Missionary Society, the plan was presented to representative missionaries in several of the hill stations of North and South India. In the various meetings, where the plan was suggested, it was not only unanimously approved, but received invaluable aid from suggestions offered in these Conferences. Letters were also sent to missionaries in all parts of India to ascertain their opinion. Out of a hundred consulted, more than ninety-five believed that the time had come for

such a movement along the lines proposed. Among others the following questions were asked in this circular letter after explaining the nature of the plan :—

1. "Can India be evangelised in this generation by existing missionary forces; or can we legitimately expect that it can be done by the Home Societies under present conditions?"

The reply was practically unanimous in the negative.

2. "Is it desirable and possible that Indian Christians should take a large responsibility and share in the evangelization of India?"

The unanimous opinion was that they could, and that the time had come when something more should be done.

3. "Would a National Missionary Society of India, working in harmony with existing organizations, and preserving denominational loyalty be possible and desirable?"

The large majority strongly favoured the plan and believed that the time had come for its inception.

Space forbids quoting all the replies, or any of the letters in full, but a few sentences may be quoted as representative.
Dr. Jacob Chamberlain, American Arcot Mission.

"For a quarter of a century I have been praying for this very movement. I am heart and soul in favour of it.

In the main the proposed constitution is on exactly the right lines."

Dr. Chamberlain said, in 1892, at the Bombay Decennial Conference :

"The Church should be so organized as to bring out Native Leadership. The day of dreaming that India could be converted by the labour of Foreign Missionaries is past. Have we sufficiently tried this bracing power of responsibility in the case of our native clergy, and laity, whom many think too weak for leadership? I would be glad to see our native brethren of different missions join hands in a work exclusively their own, and themselves send their own missionaries, selected by themselves, supported by themselves, managed by themselves. As a missionary who has already passed

one-third of a century in the service of India, I have one great aspiration that fills my mind, and on which I think much in my quiet hours. It is this: May this great land with its myriads of people be won, not for Presbyterianism, not for Independency, not for Episcopacy, not for Methodism, but FOR CHRIST AND IN HIS WAY, and with such organization as He by His Spirit may bring out of united efforts, we always working with teachable and expectant minds."

Dr. Fraser Campbell, Canadian Presbyterian Mission, Central India.

"I like the general idea very much. It will tend toward the union for which we all pray."

Dr. McLaurin, American Baptist Missionary Union.

"The proposition appeals very thoroughly to my heart and mind. I heartily agree with your plan. May you have the blessing and guidance of the Spirit in all your plans for the enlightenment of India."

(cond.)

BRANCH NEWS

Memorial Service

1) On behalf of the N.M.S. of India a Memorial Service was held on 6th May 1984 at the Salvation Army Hall in Tiruvella for the following persons who were connected with the work of the N.M.S.:

M/s P. S. George, K. V. Cherian (Ex. N.M.S. Missionary) and Brigadier K. J. John.

The Most Rev. Alexander Mar Thoma, Metropolitan presided over the meetings and spoke briefly highlighting the work of the N.M.S. The following friends spoke about their lives.

The Rt. Rev. T. S. Joseph, Mr. K. A. Mathew, Pro. C. C. Joseph, Mr. M. T. Abraham, Major C. S. Samuel and Rev. J. M. Jayasingh.

This meeting was organised by the Tiruvella area committee.

K. CHANDY,
Org. Secretary

2) The Jabalpur Branch is organising a fete, to raise funds for the work of the N.M.S. on 15th August 1984.

3) The Madras friends are making arrangements for their annual sale on 15th August 1984. It will be at the Ewarts Higher Secondary School. They have started prayer meetings and to contact people for the support.

4) The N.M.S. news in Hindi was published from Lucknow by Easter 1984. Those who need the N.M.S. news in Hindi may contact Mr. Ranjit Kumar, Org. Secretary, C/o Mr. A. H. Khan, Nur Manzil, Lal Bagh, Lucknow.

5) Mr. Josceline James and I were invited to Ikkadu by Rev. Daniel Chelladurai, Area Chairman, Ikkadu area on 10th June 19×4. We had the privilege of speaking in 6 meetings. An N.M S. branch was formed and the following are the leaders.

The Rev. Daniel Chelladurai, President,

Mr. G. Selvaraj, Vice President,

Mr. J. Jesuran, Secretary.

Miss Mary Glory Jebaratnam, Treasurer.

May the Lord help them to meet together for prayer and raise support for the work of the N.M.S.

Branch News

An N.M.S. branch was formed in Mukuperi by the efforts of the Organising Secretary and the South Tamil Area Secretary. They have elected Rev. Clement Johnson, as President, Mr. Jeyam Moses as Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr J. W. Gnanakan, Prayer Secretary. Thank God for the formation of this branch.

Rev. JEYAPAUL DAVID,
Org. Secretary

FIELD NEWS

Mangalapore - Nepal

Mr. Lal Bahadur Rana, our worker was a convert through the N.M.S. work. His life and witness made him to be the N M.S. missionary. He had left our service for Kathmandu to live with his children. Let us pray that he may be a witness for the Master in Kathmandu area.

N.M S. needs 2 evangelists to be appointed to work for the Lord in that country.

Ludhiana

Miss Salina Rekha, informs us that she visited 50 houses, distributed about 4000 tracts. contacted a number of persons and preached in the open air meetings. She has requested us to pray for a Megaphone for open air preaching. This is an urgent need for the ministry. If any member contributes for this, it is welcome. She has stated that 3 people have accepted Christ. Let us continue to pray for the ministry of Miss Salina Rekha.

Kashmir

Mr. Tahir Masih and family.

Mr. Tahir has visited 20 villages during the month of March and April. He had special contacts with 35 people and among them two have put their trust in Jesus. They need teaching. One of them is a Muslim and the other is a Sikh woman.

Mr. Solomon Rajayva Honorary Organising Secretary and his family of Tanjore and Mr. Abubakar of Vellore visited Tahir and converts. They have brought us good report about the work. Praise God for what is done in Kashmir.

Mr. Aaron Mallick, who was working with Mr. Elijah Gergan in his project at Kargil has left him and left the N.M.S. also as he is joining a Bible College. This was reported by Rev. Paljore of Srinagar.

Kota - Rajasthan

Mr. Barun Kumar Saumi writes that he visited 17 villages and made acquaintance with the people and proclaimed the good news,

A man named Dived Khaim from Bombay was in one of the villages and he was very much interested in the Gospel and he was given literature. Please pray for him.

Malligachi

Mr N. C. Ghosh writes that he is conducting the classes regularly and contacting people with the Gospel of Christ. An average of 5 people come together for worship. This particular centre needs your fervent prayers.

Puri - Orissa

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi, Mr. R. V. Ramana and Mr. Daud Saugar.

Prayer meetings are conducted regularly in which the non-christians are participating. In the January issue of the N.M.I. it was reported about a girl called Devatha known as Hepsiba. She is able to walk about 3 miles without any stick. Praise God for healing Hepsiba. Rev. Sanjeevi told us about a man who came vomiting blood but Rev. Sanjeevi prayed for him and gave him water to drink. He was healed. A few people are being prepared for baptism both at Pentacottah, and Nolayasahi. The work at the reading room and library will be resumed very soon. Prayer is solicited for the work in Puri.

Basai - M.P.

Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Yovab Singh, Mr. Stanley Mohan.

They have visited 26 villages as a team and proclaimed the good news. They have prayed for sick people particularly for Govind Singh, who was very ill. Gospel was proclaimed in the main market. The anti-Christian activists in Janakpur opposed the work. Let us pray for the people who oppose the Gospel work. Mr. Yovab Singh and Stanley Mohan, are getting adjusted to the new situation, though they are from Tamil Nadu and do not know Hindi. They are picking up very well.

Bihar Shariff :

Mr. A. H. Wadhi and family

Mr. Kalim accepted Christ, but because of his faith in Christ, people from a muslim organization went to Mr. Wadhi's house and warned him not to proclaim Christ.

Pray for the converts and the new believers like Kalim and Aslam.

Pray for the protection of Mr. Wadhi and family.

Pray for the people who oppose the gospel.

Pray for a co-worker to Mr. Wadhi.

Sikkim

Mr & Mrs. V. T. Abraham and Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal.

They report that a few people are being prepared for baptism. They visit the people regularly and proclaim the good news. They report, "Yesterday we had very good experience We met different types of people and conveyed the love of Christ. Previous night we had a meeting at Manbadhani Basti where a lot of people attended, Few people were convicted by the Holy Spirit. We are planning to have a meeting every Sunday evening in the particular area".

Prayers are requested for this new place. They also visit the sick people in the hospital. N.M.S. needs two more evangelists for Sikkim. Please pray for the work and its needs.

Hebri - Karnataka

Mr. Frankline Bashme and Mr. Godfrey Soans, have reported that they have visited the houses and contacted the people. They have also helped the churches in Uchila and Paragala during the holy week. Prayers are requested for

M/s Subha Naik, Shankari, Shenoy, and Ramesh. They are interested in the Gospel.

Jawadhi Hills

Work is carried on in 10 centres with 14 evangelists. The work includes, educational, Medical and proclamation of the Gospel.

Specific prayer requests :—

1. Pray for the converts who are already baptised.

2. Pray for the ones who have accepted Christ and who are being prepared for baptism.

3. Pray for the people who are possessed with evil spirits.

4. Pray for the people who are opposing the Gospel work. particularly in Pudur area.

5. Pray for the girls in the hostel. 19 girls have been admitted in the hostel. The hostel building work is progressing.

6. Pray for the evangelists and their families.

N.B. About 300 New Testaments with Psalms are needed for the boys in the hills. If any would like to donate this you may contact the General Secretary.

General Secretary.

OBITUARY

1. Mr. Azariah Stanley of the Royapettah Wesley Higher Secondary School entered into eternal rest on 13th April 1984, after being sick for a few days. He was the Treasurer of the C.S.I. Church. He was still in service. He leaves behind his wife and two teen-aged children.

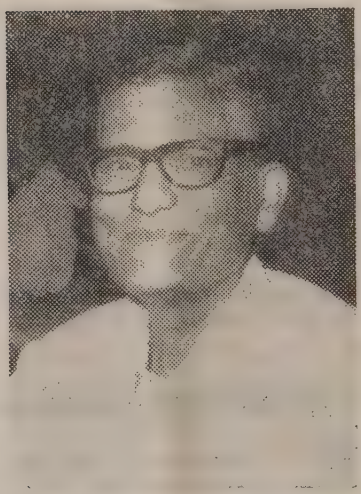
2. Mr. P. T. Rajan, a retired teacher from the Wesley Higher Secondary School, Royapettah expired at the age of 67 on 6-6-84.

3. The Rev. J. S. Athisayanathan aged 76, a retired Pastor from the Madras Diocese entered into eternal rest on 9-6-1984.

4. Mr. Edwin Peter of Cox Square, Chintadripet passed away on 10-6-1984.

The above friends were the members of N.M.S. Let us thank God for their lives and pray that the Lord may comfort and console their beloved ones.

Mr. P. S. GEORGE



P. S. George, who was a leading light in the affairs of this country in educational, social, cultural, political, business, commerce, industry and religious spheres for several decades, passed away after a brief illness on Tuesday, March 20th at his residence in Tiruvella, Kerala.

Born and brought up in a Christian home during a period of great revival in the Mar Thoma Church, he imbibed faith in Christ, the Redeemer, and in the evangelical way of life. He had, of course, the privilege of being the son of a great leader, the late P O. Samuel, who gave his children excellent discipline and training in Christian life, stewardship and behaviour.

P. S. George was known for his brilliant mind. He was a gifted speaker, both in Malayalam and English. He was famous for his analytical mind.

He started his adult life as a teacher, but he remained as one only for two years. Thereafter he took to law, at 25, in 1931. As a brilliant young lawyer, he is said to have rendered yeoman service to the unsuccessful cause of the Quilon National Bank, the survival of which had become a matter of pride and prestige for the Christian Community in the then princely State of Travancore. He practiced law for just about a decade, until he turned to business. He was also a pioneer in promoting exports of commodities like cardamon and minerals.

George found himself deeply involved in politics from his student days. As a young lawyer and political activist, congressmen of high and low stature found a reliable ally in him. He took active interest in the country's independence struggle, and later served as an important leader of the undivided Indian National Congress K.P.C.C. Treasurer, A.I.C.C. member, and the National Integration Committee. Atleast two of our Prime Ministers found it fit to listen to his account of the state of affairs in Kerala during their tenures, and one President is known to have held him in high regard.

He rendered very valuable contribution in the field of education. He was a member of the Kerala University Senate for almost three decades, and he served as a member of the University's Syndicate for 18 years. He was instrumental in securing colleges for different eommunities in Kerala. He served on the advisory committees of the Indian Education Commission, and the All India University Board.

George used to be referred to as an intellectual giant. He was President of the Kerala Granthasala Sankham for six years during which six hundred rural libraries came into being. Recognising that India's soul lived in the villages and not in our increasingly dehumanising cities, he took the library movement to the length and breadth of rural Kerala. He has served as the Vice-President of the Calcutta-based National Library.

Even amidst all his busy life as a statesman-like politician, far sighted promoter of national business and commercial interests, he fulfilled his responsibilities as a Christian, and as a member of the Mar Thoma Church. He provided sound and effective leadership as a Parishioner in all the places he has lived in He was an acknowledged leader of the Mar Thoma Church. He was elected to the Mar Thoma Sabha Council for several terms, and provided the church with lay leadership of the highest imaginable quality. He served the church on its Episcopal selection bodies too.

George was keenly interested in a number of interdenominational endeavours like the Student Christian Federation and of course the N.M.S.

He became a member of the Board of Directors of the Trivandrum Y.M.C A. at the age of 24. He has served as the Vice President of the Quilon Y M C A. As the founder-President of the Tiruvella Y.M.C.A. He responded to the call of the National

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Council of Y M.C A. to take the movement to rural India by helping to found 10 rural Y.M.C.A. in the Central Travancore region of Kerala.

A virtually life-long member of the N.M.S., George was one of the chief architects of the successful conduct of the Platinum Jubilee celebration of the N.M.S. held in Tiruvella in 1980.

First and foremost, he was a Christian. His life and witness to the redeeming love of God was a great inspiration to many who found his practice of Christian stewardship and life style almost unimitable In him, the church in India has lost a great leader. The N M.S acknowledges his services to the Society and praise the Lord for the life, witness and stewardship of this servant of His.

Rev. George Alexander,
Secretary, Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association.

WANTED

Wanted Evangelists for all the North Indian States. Minimum Qualification H.S C./S.S.L.C / Matriculation with a minimum of 2 years Theological training.

If working elsewhere, please apply through the proper channel. Candidates should have personal knowledge of Jesus Christ, willing to go to any part of the country, must be a loyal church member, (any denomination) but willing to work with another denomination and must have the evangelistic interest in reaching the unreached If the candidate had worked elsewhere, he should get the certificate from the previous employerand forward it to the General Secretary, N M S of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014, before the end of July 1984.

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The National Missionary Intelligencer

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R.C.S.F. Camp (Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp) will be held at Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills from 29th September to 5th October 1984.

For details contact the General Secretary N.M.S. Office, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. This camp is meant only for College Students.

General Secretary.

The National Missionary Society of India

205, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Acts 5:12-20

Verse 11—refers to the point, that "Great fear came upon the church and upon as many as heard these things". (The incident about Ananias and Saphira). There are several things indicated in the portion from verses 12-42 of 5th chapter of Acts.

Vs. 12—16 **Signs and wonders.**

Through the witnessing lives of the disciples many wonders and miracles took place among the people. God's power wrought the signs and wonders through a chosen group who could be in one accord. They were of one mind. They were not divided. If the members of a congregation could come together in one accord, God can do the same thing through His children even today. Today the Christian church is divided into different denominations. Each denomination has its own problem and divisions regarding property, positions, authority etc. The groups in those days were free from several of the present problems. Will the oneness of the early church come again in the churches of today and allow the spirit of God to work?

Sick people and evil possessed were brought from the towns and cities to be touched by the disciples and every one of them was healed (Vs. 15—16). Healing has to come from God and God uses His children only as instruments to reveal His power. People wanted the shadow of Peter to fall on the sick people.

If we know and believe that God has the power to heal us, let us exercise that faith in our day to day life.

Vs. 14 More people were added along with the believers. The number increased. The spirit of God worked through the people who were of one mind to bring others to Christ.

Vs. 17—18 **Imprisonment.**

The high priest of the Jewish religion could not tolerate this. It is stated that they "were filled with indignation". They were filled with anger and wanted to destroy them. They boiled within themselves and laid their hands on the disciples. The disciples were kept in prison to be tried on the next day. The high priests were angry, because :

(1) many people began to follow them.
(2) the number increased
(3) many signs and wonders were done by the disciples.

(4) they were afraid of the entire Jewish community and the one about whom they preached.

The high priests had only one choice, either they also should follow Jesus and his disciples or they should destroy the disciples and ultimately destroy the new faith to which people were after.

Vs. 19—20 **God's Deliverance**

The disciples were inside the locked and guarded prison. But the angel of the Lord was there by night and opened the prison. The Lord God works in the darkness, when fears surround us and when everything around us seems to be darkened. Psalmist speaks out in Psalm 23:5 that God prepares a table for him in the midst of his enemies. He, the risen Lord who assured the disciples to be with them, sends His angel to open the prison doors and lead them out. God's ways are mysterious and beyond our thinking.

The angel of the Lord not only led them out but commanded to go and speak to the people who are in the temple. They were directed to go back to the people and proclaim the good news. God delivers His children from the prison not to escape but to face and to witness Jesus. When God forgives a sinner, when He sets him free from the slavery of sin, He expects him to proclaim the deliverer, and the forgiver. Are we willing to obey Him in proclaiming His love. Some of us say that we need not preach Christ but do some social work and live as Christians. But how will others know about Christ if we keep our mouths shut.

Recently a Secretary of a missionary organisation was travelling in the train. He was tired by the travel and work of the previous one week. The whole day he slept in the train. That evening when the train stopped at a station, he got out for a while, where he met a friend of his who was working in another missionary Organisation. Both of them got into the train and chatted for a while. A co-passenger of this Secretary asked him "Are you a religious man" ? The Secretary replied "I am a priest and working in a missionary Organisation". Immediately he asked "How is it that you did not open your mouth and slept for the whole day. I have many doubts about Christianity and I would like to know more about Jesus". Then they sat together and discussed many things. How will others know about Christ, if we keep our mouth shut ? There are many people who want to know more about Him. Who will do this ? The command is to go and proclaim. Are we prepared to obey Him though every thing seems to be darkened. He is ready to deliver you from your troubles.

J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

At the end of June, I had to be in Allahabad to finalize the dates for the Council. Mr. Arthur V. Singh and I met Bishop Din Dayal and others in connection with the Council. God willing the Trienniel Council will take place from 6th—9th at Allahabad. Kindly pray for the successful conduct of the Council. It was a joy to be with Mr. Arthur Singh's family and to meet Rev. Paul Doss and other friends.

At Lucknow, I met the Singh Sisters, who are grieved over the death of their sister Mrs. K. M. Dhar. The Singh Sisters need your prayer. It was a privilege to meet the family of Mr. Ranjit Kumar, our Organising Secretary for U.P. and Bihar and to be with Mr. A. H. Khan and his family.

At Kanpur Mr. Ranjit Kumar and I met Mr. & Mrs. Sukla, Mr. Hero Samuel and Dr. & Mrs. Nath, who are the leaders of the branch. They have assured us that they would continue their support.

I visited Basai, our field in M. P. which is 45 kilo meters away from Jhansi. Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Stanley Mohan and Mr. Yovab Singh, are working in Basai and surroundings. There were 9 people who are being prepared for baptism and there are a number of enquirers. It was a real joy to meet them at their place.

Madras friends have started the Prayer meetings in different parts of the city in connection with the Annual Sale to raise support for the work of the Society.

We are demolishing the old broken building in our office campus to build a building for the N.M.S. The construction work will be commenced very soon. The total cost for the ground floor and the first floor will be a little more than Rs. 8 lakhs. The proposed building will be known as Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building.

We are planning to begin the work with the limited available funds and meanwhile we are planning to meet friends who would be

willing to contribute Rs. 1000/- each or more, as family in memory of their beloved ones.

For the last 3 years we were trying to change the name of the Publisher, Printer and editor of the N. M. I. and Deepikai and finally the court has declared the change of names on 19th July 1984. Thanks for bearing with us so far.

N.M.S. has launched to work in Kagal in Maharashtra and in Veeranam Malai in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Border near Vaniambadi. The work in Veeranam Malai is among the Sinhalees, who are Lambadies.

The Society needs more committed men and women as workers and financial support for them. Let us all put our efforts in achieving the goal of expanding His Kingdom.

With prayers.

Yours in His Service.
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. Part XXI

The Opinion of Representative Missionaries

Bishop Robinson, Methodist Episcopal Church, Calcutta.

"I am in heartiest sympathy. To the Indian Church itself it would be an unspeakable blessing, were its sons and daughters to become fired with a holy enthusiasm for the evangelization of their fellow-countrymen. Any effort or movement tending to produce and promote this enthusiasm, which does not violate the Christian properties and the principles of common sense, is entitled to the sympathy of all Foreign Missionaries. In the development of such a movement, personally I would not stickle for too rigid a "regularity." If thereby the day of India's evangelization could be materially hastened, I would say unhesitatingly that no effective evangelization of India can be accomplished in the next fifty years by existing missionary forces on the basis and under the conditions which prevail at the present time. All indications point to the absolute necessity of giving far more attention than ever in

the past to the development of indigenous resources of every kind. I consider the draft constitution well adapted, as a whole, to the purpose in view. It will be a duty and a privilege to pray that you may be divinely guided in this important matter. Go on and prosper in the name of our Lord."

Rev. J. P. Jones, D.D., Madura Mission, A.B.C.F.M.

"I am heartily in favour of this National Missionary Society, which we discussed at Kodaikanal. I believe that the Protestant Indian Chrirtian Community is at present ripe for such a united activity, on national lines, for the evangelization of the land, by her own sons and with her own money. You will doubtless get opposition, but that is a sine qua non of success."

Dr. J. C. R. Ewing, Forman College, Lahore.

"I have taken quite a little time to think before attempting to answer. I am in most intense sympathy with you. The most distressing feature of all is that matters in this regard are growing worse rather than better. I believe that God, in some way, will very soon stir the Indian Church : the present state is abnormal, and not consistent with the amount of believing prayer that is being offered. When the Indians move and ask us to help we should be ready. I am so far in sympathy with the idea that I look to see a mission to Arabia and to Afghanistan and to Tibet are long. These will stir our Church just as Foreign Missions stirred the Home Church."

Rev. J. Stewart, United Free Church of Scotland Mission Madras.

"I heartily approve of the formation of an indigenous National Missionary Society in India on the lines suggested to, and unanimously approved by, the representatives of the principal Missionary Societies at the meeting held at Kodaikanal. The proposal is quite feasible and will, I trust, soon become an accomplished fact. It is the very thing I have been longing to see for years. There seems to be no reason to doubt that both men and money will be forthcoming for such an enterprise. Since the aim of all missionary work is the extension of the Kingdom of God rather than of any particular denomination, the established Missionary Societies will all, I am sure, gladly welcome such a movement."

Rev. W. G. Proctor, C.M.S., Meerut, U. P.

"The movement is certainly one of high portent to the Indian Church and Mission work in India. Projected on right lines it

contains possibilities of incalculable blessing, and should prove not only a means for more effectually evangelizing India, but an important factor in the unifying of the Indian Church. Union being strength, we should welcome everything that will make for it on right lines."

BRANCH NEWS

A new N.M.S. branch has been formed at Khurai in M.P. by the efforts of Mr. F. S. Charles, the Organising Secretary for M.P. and Rajasthan.

The following are the branch leaders :

Rev. A. Mathews, President, Mr. S. Alexander, Vice President, Mr. L. K. Singh, Secretary, Mrs. Agnes Singh, Joint Secretary, Mr. I. S. Jonathan, Treasurer.

The following are the committee members :

Mr. Peter Masiah, Mr. Immanuel Lal, Mr. P. A. Mathews, Mr. J. S. Mathews, Mr. Munna Damood and Mr. Santhosh Singh.

An N.M.S. Branch has been formed at the C.S.I. Church Tirupathur, under the leadership of Rev. Christopher, who is the President.

CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. H. S. Dhanaraj will be consecrated as the Asst. Bishop in Madras Diocese by the Moderator on the 5th August 1984. We congratulate him and assure him of our prayers as he will be consecra ted as the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese.

PLEASE NOTE

All those who receive N.M.I. may kindly check whether they have sent their subscriptions or contribution towards the work. Please do not wait until the Secretary or collector comes to you for collection. You may kindly forward your contribution either by M.O./DD/ Cheque to the National Missionary Society of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-14.

FIELD NEWS

Kota : Mr. Barun Kumar Saumi

Mr. Saumi reports that now most of the people know him as the Gospel preacher, so either they avoid him or listen to him.

Pray : 1) that God may speak to the people through the distributed literature.

2) that Mr. Saumi may see the progress in his work and win souls for the Lord.

3) for the students and parents who have got the Gospel portions may read and find Christ.

4) Mr. Saumi is a convert and he says that only his sister has accepted Christ. He requests our prayers for his family members so that they may also accept Christ.

Singthana : Sikkim : Mr. & Mrs. V. T Abraham

Mr. Abraham writes "We started a new work in a nearby village where I am going regularly and doing the Gospel work. Four families are willing to accept Jesus as their Personal Saviour. The name of the village is Mamchari Baste. We visited Ragekhola and had meeting in a house where more that 8 people gathered. We had regular prayer meetings as usual. Every Thursday we have a prayer meeting at the Tadong military camp. As a result of the work 3 people were baptized during the month of June. They are Mr. Manju Singh, Miss Amirtha and Miss Aniu. Now four more people are ready for baptism. Please pray for them. They are Mrs. Soma Pradeep, Miss Sabina Pradeep, Vimal and Gopal Singh. Your prayers are also requested for Mr. Pradeep Singh who is not a believer. His family members have accepted Christ."

Khamdong : Sikkim : Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal

His report is as follows :

"I visited Khamdong Sumick village where many caste people are settled. They are known as Pradha while visiting I went to Mr. Man Bahadur Pradhas and distributed Christian literature and tracts to them. We had a talk about half an hour about Jesus Christ. He had many doubts and problems.

A testimony from Kashmir

My name is Nelpher, I come from a Muslim family in Srinagar, Kashmir. My mother tongue is Kashmire.

HOW I BECAME A CHRISTIAN?

For a long time there was no peace in my heart. To escape from this tension I was trying and searching some way out. To find peace I used to go to many religious leaders and Fakirs but all in vain.

One day I heard of one Fakir whose name is Tahir Masih. After a long search I met him in All Saints Church and got his prayers. Through his prayers all the worries of my heart were gone and I got joy. After this I met Tahir Masih many times and he instructed me to read the New Testament. So I asked him what is the use of reading the New Testament? He told me that I will receive eternal joy. Then he gave me a New Testament. After reading I was convicted of my sins and I felt the necessity of salvation and began to search for the Saviour. After talking with Mr. Tahir Masih about the Saviour I believed that there is no other Saviour except the Lord Jesus Christ and it is necessary to put faith in Him. That is the reason for becoming a Christian and now I am a Christian.

Nelpher,
Srinagar.

MADRAS N.M.S. SALE

The Madras City Area Committee of the N.M.S.I. will have its annual Sale on the 15th of August 1984, at the Ewart Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Madras-600 084.

ALL ARE INVITED

Area Secretary.

Ludhiana—Punjab : Miss Salina Rekha

Miss Salina Rakha preaching at the market

During the month of May Miss Rekha has visited four villages, preached in open air meetings, distributed tracts and Gospel portions to several people. Her younger sister joins her in the work. She is in need of a Megaphone and a bicycle to carry on the work. Please pray for the needs. Please also remember the state of Punjab and its religions, communal and political problems in our prayers. Please pray that peace and harmony may be brought back to the country.

Basai—M.P. : Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Yovah Singh and Mr. Stanley Mohan

Basai is almost at the border of U.P. and M.P. It is about 40 k.m. from Jhansi. There are about 9 people who have been prepared for baptism. Please pray that they may be baptised in God's time as there are some problems in baptizing them.

The two new evangelists from South have started speaking in Hindi and they are confident in contacting the people.

The people of this area are very simple village folks. I had the opportunity of visiting this area and when we went to the villages we found that the people are responsive and they listen to the gospel message. As the message is presented, doubts and questions are raised by the people. Please pray that the gospel may penetrate into the lives of the villagers.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala: Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

When I visited Mr. Gangadaran Kani at the Cherukara Kani village I found written on his house door "only Jesus" you save us also". As I made enquiries he said he believes in Jesus". Pray for Gangadharan Kani, and his family. Mr. Sreedharan Kani of Pottomavoo village is opposing the gospel. You are requested to pray for him. There are others who are interested in the Gospel.

Bihar Shariff : Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Wadhi

Mr. Wadhi reports that the Operation Mobilisation Team is camping in the area. He also reports that one Mr. Kalim has accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour, and his father is against the work. The work in that area needs your regular prayers.

Hebri—Karnataka : Mr. Frankline Bhaskme & Mr. Godfrey Soans

They have reported as follows :

"During this month we had to face threatening words from the villagers. We find most of the people are Orthodox Hindus, having different views towards Christians. One day we went to a hotel for food. There we had the opportunity of telling them the good news about God's love and salvation of sinners. There was a person among the hearers, who warned us, "You will be driven out from Hebri in a short time". Another young man supported him and said—"We will break your hands and legs". Please pray that the contacts made in this place may bring more results and also pray for the people who oppose the Gospel.

Kandali—Karagapatti—Tamilnad : Rev. & Mrs. Thiraviam

They are transferred to this new area near Tirupattur. Originally the N.M.S. has worked in this area along with the friends from the Christukula Ashram. There are a few scattered Christians in this area. But there are several villages where people are interested in the gospel. Mr. Thiraviam reports "Mr. Anvar, a muslim could not use his left leg properly and he could not move out. He had taken treatments but got no relief. I was invited to go and pray and I did. From the next morning he was able to walk. He is very happy. This incident has created astonishment among other muslims. Please pray for his conversion.

There are a few people in some villages who studied in the N.M.S. School at Puram and one of them is Kannu Gounder. He will be around 45 years old. He expressed as follows: "I know about Jesus. I know many verses from the Bible. Miracles have taken place in my life. I wanted to take baptism as family, but the circumstances made me and my family to depart from the love of God". Please pray for this man.

Veeranam Malai—Tamilnad: Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan

The work in Pudur is stopped for the time being as there was strong opposition. The Committee has advised to watch the situation and renew the work.

Veernam Malai is about 10 k.m. interior from Vaniambadi. This is a border area of Tamilnad and Andhra Pradesh, where Lambadies known as SUGALIES are living. There are about 6000 of them who live in this area. Please pray for this new area and the work.

JAWADHI HILLS (Reports of May and June 1984)

Jamnamarathur: Mr & Mrs. Aruldoss.

They have visited 25 villages and contacted people with the good news of salvation. There are sick people for whom prayers were offered. Some time back they were asked to pray for one Ranjini, who took baptism. Please pray for her. She needs the healing touch of the Lord. Her father is also very seriously ill. Please pray that the entire family may come under the power of the living God.

A magician from Kuresalepet village was told about Christ and salvation. His name is Munusamy. In the weekly market, the gospel is proclaimed regularly. Samgath and Krishnan came for prayer after the open air meeting at the market.

Mr. Barathan a tribal from Jamnamarathur who had to discontinue his M.B.B.S. studies is contacted. He is discouraged. Please pray for him that he may find Christ.

The hostel building work is progressing. There are 20 girls in the hostel. Pray for Mrs. Alamelu who cooks the food and Mrs. Annal Aruldoss who is in charge of the hostel.

A regular prayer meeting is held at the chapel in Jamnamarathur.

Athipet : Mr. & Mrs. James Meyyan

Mr. James Meyyan is teaching about 25 boys. He has requested prayer for the converts who had taken baptism namaly; Chinna Kanni, Managar Govindan. They are facing several problems in their day to day life.

Gundalathur : Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel

Mrs. Sarama Jeyaraj reports "I visited 20 villages, and treated 166 patients and all were healed. A boy from Gundalathur village, was sick and the parents lost hope of his living, he was treated and cured. One Periapillai; a lady from Vedathopu was brought to us with high temperature and she was unconscious. She was given treatment and she is also cured. Please pray that these people who are treated physically may find Christ for their spiritual sickness.

The medical work in this area has left some impression on the minds of the people. Praise God for this. "They were praising our medical work as well as the good news. There were some positive questions raised by them—What shall we do for accepting Christ and for worshipping. A few voluntarilly confessed that they would like to become Christians. They were invited to attend the Sunday evening worship. They visit a school twice a week and teach the students songs and Bible stories. About 25 students are attending the night school. A few are preparing themselves for baptism. Please pray for them.

Kalyanamandai : Mr. M. Jesudass

Mr. Jesudass writes "God enabled me to visit about 42 villages and nearly 712 people have heard the good news. At Nellivasal 3 demon possessed women were healed. Praise God. The people of Nellivasal expressed that they will worship Jesus Christ. One man at Puthur after hearing about heaven asked whether he could go to heaven and I said "yes" and explained more about heaven. He needs your prayers. In another village one man asked me to come and preach daily".

Prayers are required for enquirers and converts and for the ones who are waiting for baptism.

Allery : Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles

During the months of May and June, they have visited 39 villages. He reports that people are interested to hear the gospel

and at the same time, there are people who threaten the work indirectly.

The Jabalpur Branch of the N.M.S.I., is conducting its annual sale on the 15th August 1984. Members are requested to pray for the successful conduct of the sale.

Prayers are requested for the following :

1) For the contacts made in the villages.
2) For the Sunday worship, cottage prayer meetings and the day school. (There is no educational work in that area except our day school and night school)
3) For the ones who were baptised and for the ones who are waiting for baptism.
4) For Govindan who opposes the gospel work.

Nadanoor : Mr. G. A. Raju and Mr. Victor Gnana Rajan

They report that they have visited 19 villages and proclaimed the good news. The medical work which is being done with the directions from the Vellore St. John's Church members is found effective.

Please pray for the 5 people who are prepared for baptism.

Please also pray for the converts that they may stand firm in the faith.

Thongumalai : Mr. & Mrs. Ananda Chandrasekaran

During the month of May and June, they have contacted the people in 35 villages. A few sick and demon possessed people were prayed for. Mr. Narayanan, the B.P.M. of Tekamarathu has got over from his drinking habits. Praise God for that. Pray for the village head at Chinnoor who is listening to the gospel message and he is showing interest. Pray for Ponnusamy and Gheeta Chinnoor who are being prepared for baptism.

Kattian Kulisai : Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam

Mr. Devairakkam writes "Kuppusami of Melkuppanavoor, a student of the N.M.S. School, fell down from the tree and broke his hand. On hearing this, I went to pray for him but his parents

told me, not to enter into the house and pray, and said "if you come into our house, our gods will be angry on us, you may pray by standing at the veranda". Pray that the Lord may heal him and the people may put their trust in Jesus alone. A prayer meeting was held in Mr. Raju's house and about 50 people from the village participated in it and listened to the word of God.

Mr. Settu of Nammiampet regularly listens to the gospel message and he expressed that he has no children. Please pray that the Lord may have mercy on him and his wife to enable them to get an issue.

Mr. Velaia and his family have accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour. They need our prayers.

They have visited 11 villages, some of them twice and spoken individually to about 150 people.

Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mr. R. V. Ramana, Mrs. Lakshmi and Mr. & Mrs. Daud Saguar.

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi reports that the Gospel work at the time of Car Festival was blocked though they have done it being in frone of the Puri Library building, They have threatened to destroy ths work at Pentacottah. Rev. Paul Sanjeevi is asked to vacate hir house. Please pray that the Lord may provide a house for Rev. Sanjeevi to live.

Mr. Daud Sagar writes that he is conducting prayer meetings, teaching the children and visiting people regularly. He says "We are proclaiming the good news in the midst of opposition".

Your valuable prayers are solicited.

Branch News.

Trivandrum Area Committee.

Farewell to Mrs. Mitchel Daniel, Joint Secretary.

A touching farewell was given to Mrs. Mitchel Daniel on 29th May 1984 by the local Area Committee members. She had put in nearly 25 years of service with C.S.I. South Kerala Diocesan Embroidary Industry. From 1965 she was connected with the N.M.S. affairs.

The programme was held at the T.J.M. Hall with Rev. Israel in the chair. After introductory talks by Rev. Israel, Mr. K. George welcomed the gathering and briefly narrated the close connection which Mrs. Daniel had with the N.M.S. work. Mr. J. Jebamany, Mrs. J. White and Miss Vilasini White spoke commending her services. At the close of the meeting Mr. K. George, the President presented a tray and a Kerala boat as a token in appreciating her service. Mrs. Mitchel Daniel responded for the kind words spoken about her.

Miss Vilasini White,
Area Secretary.

OBITUARY

Mr. Blanchfield a supporter and member of the Singh Sister's family, left for his heavenly abode on 9th July 1984. He has left behind his wife, two daughters and 2 grand children.

★ ★ ★

We are very sorry to inform the members that Mrs. Usha Newton aged 40 years and daughter of Mr. A. P. Brown one of the active members of the Delhi Area Committee slept in the Lord on the 27th April 1984 after prolonged illness leaving behind her, her only son aged 17 years. May the Lord Almighty comfort and console the members of the bereaved family.

★ ★ ★

Pastor P. A. Abraham of the Salem Siloan Church passed away into eternal rest on 13th June 1984. He was a regular supporter of the N.M.S. Always he was ready to give liberally for the work of the N.M.S.

He was a keen evangelist and a dedicated man. We convey our heart felt condolence to the members of his family.

Mr. R. Daniel,
Area Secretary, Salem.

★ ★ ★

N.M.S. Branch in Jabalpur will have the annual FETE on 15th August 1984 to raise funds for the work of the Society.

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OBITUARY

Mrs. K. M. Dhar, aged 102 entered into her eternal home after a full life in this world on 1st May 1984.

She was born on 5th June 1882.

Mrs. Miriam Dhar was the W/o Late Mr. K. M. Dhar who worked in the Govt. Agriculture Office in Lucknow. She was the daughter of Pastor Ram Singh and came from a large family of eleven members who were either Pastors, educationalists or doctors. Her sister Miss M. M. Singh was the U. P. Area Secretary of the N.M.S. for a long time. Mrs. Dhar along with her Singh sisters were all devoted to the welfare and development of the N.M.S. work and very generously supported its cause.

In her younger days Mrs. Dhar worked in the Hudson Mission School, Kanpur, where she was the Organist in the church. After her marriage in 1910 she settled in Lucknow with her husband and served as a teacher in Mahila College for 37 years, where she was able to influence hundreds of Hindu girls with the love of Christ.

In 1935 she became a widow and she had to educate her children Eileen, Ivy, Violet and Augustus. These children are life members of the N.M.S. She was a great supporter of many Christian activities and a woman of prayer.

A Memorial Service was held on 5th June at her residence. A large number of people participated. Many rich and beautiful tributes were paid by Dr. A. C. Das, Rev. C. S. Das, Dr. Nathan and Mr. A. H. Khan, Hon. Secretary, U.P. Area. The Service was conducted by Rev. H. B. Ram of the Central Methodist Church. She has left behind her two Singh Sisters, and her children and grand children. They need your prayers.

General Secretary.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras 600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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The N. M. S. Sunday falls on 14th October 1984. Branches, Area Committees, Institutions of the Church and the Churches are requested to observe the N. M. S. I. Sunday and pray for it's activities.

General Secretary.

The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Acts : 5:21-42

The disciples who were imprisoned by the High Priest and rescued by the angel entered into the temple and preached as per the command given to them. Vs. 20-21a. For them Christ's command was more important than that of their lives. They were willing to risk their lives for the one who died, buried, rose again and ascended into heaven.
Vs. 21b-24

Early in the morning the disciples got into the temple to proclaim the good news. And at the same time the High Priest and the Sanhedrim assembled together to do away with the followers of Christ. Probably they would not have slept in the previous night. How can the wicked sleep ? They were there wanting to do away with the disciples The officers were sent to bring the imprisoned ones (Vs. 21b)

To their astonishment every thing was in order. The prison doors were locked, the guards were standing outside, but inside the imprisoned ones were missing A look from outside was good and perfect, but inside was empty. A Christian who was a religious man, was observed by a Pastor. The Christian, who professed, was very good in giving to the church, attending the church and he would not miss a programme in the church. He also took up leadership in the church. The pastor admired him. The professed Christian had problems of inner struggle and his inner life was empty. While he was young he had accepted Christ, but later on drifted away from God, went into the rotten life and Christ was not in him. Outside he looked as if Christ was in his life. One day he went to the pastor and said, "Pastor, I am doing every thing ; you have not doubted me, but you know Christ is not in me. I am far away from Him". The Pastor was shocked to hear the statement, some times we also think that Christ is within us, but he would have left us long ago. It is empty. The Officers reported back to the religious cabinet that ".....but when we had opened, we found no man within". (Vs. 23-b) This news shocked them. They were in a fix and they had no idea of what had happened and what would happen in connection with this affair.

When they buried Jesus, they made Pilot, the governer to seal the tomb and guard it. Early in the morning they found only the empty tomb. Now this has happened here. The religious group was trying to limit the limitless God and His actions.

God can fill your empty souls. His power is beyond your and my concept. Let us surrender ourselves to Him. The rebellious religious leaders did not want to surrender and say that they were empty within themselves.

May the Lord help us to know, understand, and accept our position.

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Four missionaries from the fields were invited to speak in the churches and prayer meetings in the city. Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Messrs. V. T. Abraham, Daniel Bal, and Yovab Singh. This has helped the people to know more about the work of the N. M. S. A report about their work will appear in the next issue of the N. M S. The youth at the Redeemers Church in Kodambakkam have donated a guitar, a Tambourine and a projecter for the work in Sikkim.

A few churches have come forward to support a missionary each for the N. M. S. I. and we have to praise God for this new step.

The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building work has begun by turning the first soil on the 25th of August 1984 by Mr. Saeed Rallia Ram, the Executive Director of the World Vision of India. He shared his personal experience of the Lord which was a thrilling one. While commenting about the work of the N. M. S I. he said " Once N. M. S. was No Money Society and it is ' Now Moving Star in India '. One of his uncles, the Rev. Rallia Ram was a keen leader in the N. M. S. I.

25th of August was a day of Nationwide Bandh but a good number of persons turned out for the meeting. We have started the work in faith and we need to find funds for this work. We believe the Lord who has enabled us to begin the work will definitely supply the funds. We have about Rs. 1½ lakhs for the said purpose. The total cost of the Ground Floor and 1st floor which we intend to construct now will cost Rs. 8 lakhs.

Though we have taken up this building project, our main concern is to send out missionaries.

People in our Country are agitating over the political developments in different States, destroying public properties and causing inconveniences to the public. The innocent students are led loose and used as weapons. We need to pray very fervently to the Lord to have peace in our Country.

As Christians our task in the Country in proclaiming the Good News is increasing and we need to unite the people to live in harmony and love. We should live above politics.

May the God of peace and love be with us.

With best wishes and prayers.

Yours in His Service
(J. M. JAYASINGH)
General. Secretary

Know our N. M. S. I. Part XXII

The Opinion of Representative Missionaries

Rev. J. H. Wyckoff, American Arcot Mission, Vellore.

"The scheme has my most cordial endorsement. The Indian Church needs nothing so much as the development of the Missionary spirit. The poverty of the community has too long been urged as an excuse for their not doing more: but there are hundreds of Native Christians, in high position, who have not yet come in sight of their ability and duty as God's children. The Lord cured congestion in the early Church by means of persecution. In these times of peace, some influence from without mus, be employed to rouse the Indian Christians from their lethargyt and keep their spiritual life glowing. The reflex influence of such and effort could not fail to be most salutary, not to speak of the missionary results attained."

Rev. E. S. Carr, C. M. S. Tinnevelly.

"The proposed National Missionary Society of India has my warm approval. I believe it may be not only a means of great blessing to those tracts of Northern India which are not only unevangelized, but humanly speaking, unevangelizable in this generation with present methods; but also an outlet for the evangelistic energy which I believe lies dormant in the minds of many Indian Christians who, at present, are finding employment in different walks of life. I trust it may be taken up warmly by the Indian Church".

Rev. W. B. Boggs, American Baptist Missionary Union.

"The proposal commends itself to me as from God. It throws light on the tremendous problem of India's evangelization. and I trust that it will develop into a great and permanent movement.

I believe that such a Society as that proposed is the best way to meet the appalling need of India ; and that such a movement is possible."

Rev. J. Duthie, L. M. S. Nagercoil, S. Travancore

"It seems to me the movement on the lines which it is proposed to follow, cannot but commend itself to all who have at heart the evangelization of the country ; and most heartily do I wish all success to your efforts.

Canon Goldsmith, Hyderabad

"Most desirable and quite possible. I will gladly join you in prayer for guidance in this matter."

Rev. W. Chamberlain, Secretary, South India Missionary Association

"The conception certainly is a bold one ; but it seems to me to be sound in theory, and I do not know why it should not become a practical and splendid reality in the Indian Church if carefully organised and judiciously maintained."

Rev. C. W. A. Clarke, C. M. S.

"I believe your scheme of a National Missionary Society for India is perfectly workable, and that it will be taken up by the Missions of the C. M. S. I am helping you by prayer."

A. G. Fraser, C. M. S. Trinity College, Kandy, Ceylon.

"In Uganda, where I worked for some years, the European is used only for organization, pioneer work and the development of the educational work. The native does the work of the Church himself, and its real missionary burden largely falls on him. A National Missionary Society of India working on the lines you suggest is what we utterly desire. India knows the thought of India. The Indian can learn the language of their fellows : they can live near them in their manner of life. Indians for India is I believe, the only step to India for Christ. Your present constitution seems to me eminently reasonable".

Rev. H. C. Velte, Presbyterian Church of U. S. American, Saharanpur.

"After one hundred years of Protestant Missionary effort, the time has certainly come for the Indian Christian community to begin to organize missionary societies of their own...Indigenous Missionary Societies working side by side with the Foreign Societies would be a great advantage ..I welcome the movement, because 1) it is a national movement... 2) because it is an indigenous movement...3) because it is an interdenominational movement ..."

(Contd.)

FIELD REPORTS

Jamnamarathur - Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss

Along with the field workers let us Praise God for His sustaining in the ministry in making it more meaninful to the masses through medical mission and night school. We Praise God for the good response from people of other faiths. Special prayers are needed for those who have responded viz Chinnapaiyan, Chinnayan, Vellachi and Chinamathai of Nadanoor village.

The Lord has enabled us to begin the Hostel construction. We Praise God for this and for the girls who are going to benefit. There are 19 girls in the hostel at present.

Kalyanamanthai - Mr. M. Jesudoss

The God of miracles manifested himself in various ways, Mr. Jesudoss, writes " A man was involved in a court case and he was of firm belief that he would win the case. God also conceded to his intercession. Another educated girl has accepted Christ at Kottavor. Please remember these people in prayers.

Athipattu - Mr, Mrs. James Meyyan

Mr. Meyyan reports that seventeen villages were visited and one hundred and fifty people were presented with the gospel. All these were carried on inspite of constraints and opposition. There are some back sliders who need fervent prayers. Night school and medical work are also done simultaneously which help many more to have a glimpse of Christ and Christianity.

Gundalathur - Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel

Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel acknowledging God's Grace and mighty intervening hand writes that he was saved from a disastrous bus accident. God's unchanging saving hand prevented him to keep him away from travelling by that bus. With him let us thank and Praise God.

Thongumalai - Mr. Ananda Chandrasekaran

In the villages, contacts at different levels have been established and the work is speedily extending amidst opposition. Outreach work and visitation of the converts house and also other people have been encouraging with a remarkable progress. There are people from small villages like Ettipattu, Tekkamarthur, and Mullanoor making earnest enquiries in a bid to quench their spiritual thirst. Let us intercede to God, that they may be guided and sustained in His Faith.

Kattionkundusai - Mr. P. Devairakkam

Mr. Vellain's son is eager to know the Lord but his father is a stumbling block for this. Pray that God would enable Mr. Vellain's son in being instrumental in drawing his entire family into Christ's fold Also remember Muthuswamy as two of his beloved ones have gone to eternal rest. May we through our prayers comfort his family at the time of this inseparable loss.

Nadannoor - Mr. G. A. Raju & Mr. Victor Gnanarajan

Mr. Raju reporting about his last month's work writes "I was able to visit seventeen villages, the closer interaction with the people has helped many people to show interest and to further deeper discussions. Many sick people were visited and were given the available medical help. A Kolattam program me was performed at St. John's Church, Vellore by these natives on 28th and 29th June 1984. The congregation in token of their appreciation and love presented bed spreads for floral purposes at Nadannoor. A medical team from Vellore comprising of Dr. John, Dr. Mrs. Saba. Miss Lindya Ramaya and Mr. Jasper visited Nadanoor and the neighbouring villages to render medical services.

Veeranam Malai - Mr. Velmurugan

God has enabled us to further extend the missionary territories by opening a mission field at Veeranam Malai near Vaniyambadi North Arcot District, Tamilad.

This place is dominated by the Lambadi tribe. The Missionary reports that this sect of people are quite eager to adopt the new cultural settings, As their main occupation is agriculture, they depend more on monsoons. Please remember this newly started work to be sustained by God's mercies, and for the people to believe the living God.

Kulathupnzha - Mr. & Mrs. Papachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

The work at Kulathupuzha continues to spear ahead, amidst opposition. There are 5 prayer fellowship meetings conducted for plantation workers, and there has been a good response. Please pray that these meetings should pave the way for these plantation workers to come into Lord's fold.

Nolayasahi - Mr. Daud Saugar

Regular prayer meetings are being held. Gods working is seen remarkably in this area. Rev. Sanjeevi reports "one new lady Mrs. Simma Chalam was always having swelling in the body. She came to the church and we prayed as a congregation for her uniting

our hearts and she was healed." Let us Peaise God for His acts of grace being showered on the missionaries and their ministry.

Basai - MP-RevR. K. Vyas, Mr. Yovab Singh & Mr Stanley Mohan

Let us thank God for the peaceful ministry that is carried in this field and also for the following persons who have openly professed that they have accepted Christ. 1) Mr. Ram Bharrasey's family 2) Ram Singh. There are also enqurers at the neighbouring churcees asking to introduce NMS and it's work. Let us pray that these enquirers may find the living God in their lives through N. M. S, work- Christian families and BHEL colony are visited regularly.

Kagal-Maharashtra - Miss Vasantha Kumari David

The work by Miss Vasantha Kumari David, the new evangelist has been started in this area. She writes "the need among Christians is more here, because only 3 families out of 12 attend church. The rest are only accustomed to Hindu customs and life, andabstain from church related activities.

Kindly uphold these Christians in prayers in order that they may become living witnesses to Christ and His Gospel. Also remember in your prayers the Bible study groups conducted among Christians and also ministry in other villages.

Hebri - Mr Franklin Bhasme

Mr Frankline Bhasme has been ministering in this area. Villages in the near vicinities are visited and the gospel is preached The Christian flock in this town has no shepherd so on these occasions our missionaries do cater to the needs, and even conduct cottage prayer meetings.

N. M. S. BRANCH NEWS

Jabalpore News

The Jabalpore branch had their Fete for N M. S. on 15th August 1984. The Chief guest was the Rev. Kishan Singh and Rev. Peter Solomon, member of the minority cammission, M. P., delivered the message Mr. V. J. Chandrasekar, Principal of the Christian School made all the arrangements.

Madras News

On 15th August 1984 at the Ewart Higher Secondary School, the Annual Sale was conducted by the M. C A. C. It was a successful one and I praise God for their efforts. There were more stalls and a good number of churches and families had put up stalls in their names. The collection on the day was almost Rs. 30,000/-. Thus far a total of Rs. 40 000/- has been received. Mrs. Kamala Rajasingh of the Kingsway consulting Enginners was the Chief Guest. She stressed on the point that the lad in John 6. gave to Jesus, what he had and urged the people to give to Jesus for His work. The City area Committee has done its best in contacting the people and the Churches.

General Secretary

The National Missionary Society of India Week of Prayer will be from 6th to 14th of October 1984. Please observe the week of prayer. You may contact the following for Prayer Calls.

Hindi—Mr. Ranjit Kumar, C/o Mr. A. H. Khan, Nur Manzil, Lal Bagh, Lucknow-226001.

Kannada—Mr. J. P. Ashwal, 38/1341, M.H.B. Tilak Nagar, Bombay-400 089.

English & Tamil—N.M.S. Office, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

Malayalam—Mr. K. Chandy, Mathilunkal House Near Railway Station, Tiruvella-680 101 Kerala State.

Telugu—Rev. P. J. Victor, D. No. 6-25, Kamaiah Thopu, Vasanthanagar Post, Vijayawada-520 007.

R.C.S.F. Camp will be held from 28th Sept. to 5th October 1984 at Jamnamarathur. Please contact the General Secretary or Mr. David Suresh, Org. Secry. North Tamil Area for details at 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

Urgent Prayer Requests

1) It is very sad to learn that two families in Allery went back to their old faith, due to the pressure from their relatives. Please pray that they may come back.

2) Pray for the R.C S F. Camp, participants, leaders and the needed funds.

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Deputation work done by the missionaries of the N.M.S. in Madras from 26th July to 15th August 1984.

The Rev. Paul Sanjeevi of Puri, M/s V. T. Abraham and Daniel Bal of Sikkim and Mr. Yovab Singh of Basai, M. P. and Mr. Aruldoss from Jawadhi Hills were invited for deputation work in Madras, in connection with the Annual Sale of the Madras City Area Committee All these five friends brought fresh news from their respective mission fields. The reports given were encouraging. They spoke at the prayer meetings in the N.M.S. friends houses and in the churches mainly in the following areas.

Ashok Nagar, Pallavaram, Pammal, Meenambakkam, Avadi, Vepery, Royapettah, Santhome, Triplicane, Secretariat Colony Kilpauk, Foreshore Estate, Mambalam, St. Thomas Mount, Kodambakkam, Alandur and Royapuram and Porur.

They had the privilege of addressing the staff of Kellet Higher Secondary School, Bains Higher Secondary School. They also spoke to the students at the Hindustan Bible Seminary.

Apart from speaking in the C.S.I. Church, the missionaries were able to speak in the baptist Churches, Mar Thoma Churches and St. Thomas Evangelical Church.

Mr. Chandy, our Kerala organising Secretary was given the opportunity to speak about the N.M.S. in the Mar Thoma Church at Chetpet. For the first time the English Baptist Church invited the N.M.S General Secretary to speak at their morning worship service on the 12th August 1984.

Thanks to the presbyters and others who welcome the N.M.S. Missionaries and used them in their church services.

General Secretary

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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APPEAL FOR OBSERVATION OF N.M.S. WEEK OF PRAYER

October 7th to 14th 1984

N.M.S. Sunday 14th Oct. 1984

AIM

To unite all Christians of all denominations in prayer on that day. (Collections and donations if sent will be used for reaching the unreached in our country.)

GIVING MISSION ITS PROPER PLACE

Our God is a calling and sending God. He has called all of us to receive the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ freely and to live a life of Christ and to go out into the world in order to carry on His work. The Gospel, according to St. John, puts the great commission in these simple words "As the Father has sent me even so I send you" (John 20:21). The Gospel, according to St. Mark—Chapter 16 vs. 14-15 project commission of Jesus very clearly. Teaching, preaching, healing, making disciples and baptising them, are all included in His clarion call (Matthew 19-20). The mission of the church is to continue with the mission of Jesus Christ to the world. The great commission commands every christian to go out into the whole world "to make disciples". In other words, Christians are sent to proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God with the hope and conviction that men and women will accept the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Evangelism is proclamation of the historical, biblical Christ as Saviour, and Lord with a view to persuading people to come to Him personally and to show the obedience to God, to one and another and to his creation. The result of the evangelism includes obedience to Christ, incorporation into His church and responsible service in the world.

It is necessary that every local congregation should be a Missionary Church with a programme of evangelism. The clergy should enable the Laity to realise that they are the front line Missionaries. The church must equip and enable the Laity in their task of evangelism. The local church should identify and equip those who have special gift for evangelism. Their gift should be developed for use for the whole church.

We are indeed happy that National Missionary Society is specifically engaged in this ministry. May we appeal to all Christians and all churches in India to support the work of the National Missionary Society of India in every respect. We thank God for the wonderful ministry that is being carried on by N.M.S.

May we realise that "mission is people's business" and hence it is time that we take this responsibility seriously. May God bless all our people to take the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ seriously as a primary vocation.

(Sd.) Rt. Rev. D. C. GORAI
Moderator
Church of North India.

CALL TO PRAYER

To

The Church and institutional heads.

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Every year October 2nd week is remembered as N.M.S.I. week of Prayer. This year it falls from 6th to 14th of October 1984. 14th October 1984 will be the N.M.S. Sunday. Kindly take steps to observe the N.M.S. Sunday in your church and institutions and pray for the work of the Society. Some details about the work, place and people are given for your information. The matters for prayer and praise are also given. The Litany may be used during the whole week and particularly for the Sunday Service.

A special offering may be collected at the N.M.S. Sunday Service and sent to the Hon. Treasurer, N. M S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

Your earnest prayers are requested for the new plan of sending another 100 evangelists into new areas within the next two years of time.

With prayers and kind regards.

On behalf of the N.M.S.I.

Rt. Rev. I. P. ANDREWS
President, N.M.S.I.
Bishop of Kolhapur Diocese
of the C.N.I.

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

M. D. SELVARAJ,
Hon. Treasurer

MATTERS FOR PRAISE

WE THANK YOU, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER!

(Repeat after each Praise)

1. For the love of Christ, by which He gave Himself for us.

2. For His last command to go into all the world and to preach the Gospel.

3. For all those who have obeyed the command and left their own homes and people and went into other regions to proclaim the Gospel.

4. For the Churches established by the work of the missions and missionaries in different parts of the world particularly in India.

5. For all the missionary movements in India both for the denominational and inter-denominational movements.

5. For the Founders of N.M.S. for all the past Presidents, Secretaries, Hon. Treasurers and Executive Members, all the Missionaries and Evangelists, Organising Secretaries and for their labour.

7. For the present, President, General Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee Members, Missionaries, Evangelists, Organising Secretaries and Office Staff.

8. For the Area Committees, Branch Committees, contributors, praying friends, supporting groups and Churches.

9. For the new converts and enquirers in all our centres.

10. For the missionary interest which we see in the Churches in India to proclaim the good news to the ones who have not heard it.

11. For the open door, which we have in our country to proclaim the Gospel. (Psa. 103:1-2. "Bless the Lord oh my soul and bless His Holy Name, Bless the Lord oh my soul and forget not all His Benefits.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

WE PRAY TO YOU OUR HEAVENLY FATHR !

(Repeat after each Prayer)

1. For all the Christians and Churches in India, so that the Church may be willing to take the entire responsibility of preaching the Gospel and for all the Churches and institutional heads in this country.

2. For the denominational and inter-denominational missionary organisations that they may do the evangelistic work in close co-operation with the Churches.

3. For the Christians in India and elsewhere so that they may stand united in proclaiming the Gospel.

4. For all the missionaries who labour in unreached places in our country.

5. For the N.M.S. missionaries and their families in different parts of the country, so that they may be protected from all evils of society.

6. For the new converts and enquirers in all the centres of the work, particularly for the ones who are ready for baptism.

7. For the converts who are harassed and thrown out of home, so that they may stand firm in their faith.

8. For opening new centres of work and for new missionaries which the Society needs.

9. For the educational, medical and social work particularly for the girls' hostel in Jawadhi Hills.

10. For the branches, Area committees, Executive committee, Office Staff, supporting Churches and groups of the Society.

11. For all praying and supporting people in the Missionary Society.

12. For the Organising Secretaries, so that they may do their best in creating the missionary vision among the Churches. For protection in their travels.

13. For the President, Hon. Treasurer and the General Secretary of the N.M.S. so that they may guide the Society depending on the Lord of the harvest.

14. For the country, for the President, Prime-minister, and both for the Central and State Governments, so that they may govern the nation and do good to the country.

Lord's Prayer (all together) "OUR FATHER.....Amen.

THE PRESENT N.M.S. CENTRES AND MEN IN THE FIELD

Nepal-Baitadi	:	Mr. & Mrs. Dhan Bahadur Pun	2
Kashmir	:	Mr. & Mrs. Tahir	2
Sikkim-Singtaom	:	Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham Mrs. Abraham is teaching in School	1
Kamdong	:	Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal	2
M. P. Basai	:	Rev. Ravi Ratan Vyas Mr. Yovab Singh Mr. Stanley Mohan	3
West Bengal-Malligachi	:	Mr. N. C. Ghosh (Teacher)	1
Bihar Shariff	:	Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Wahdi	2
Orissa-Puri	:	Rev. and Mrs. Paul Sanjeevi (Mrs. Sanjeevi is working in a School) Mr. & Mrs. Daud Saguar Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi (Teacher) Mr. R. V. Ramana (Teacher) Mrs. Mariamma Koteeswara Rao	1 2 1 1
Maharshtra Kagal	:	Miss Vasantha Kumari David	1
Rajasthan-Kota	:	Mr. Barun Kumar Samui	1
Karnataka-Hebri	:	Mr. & Mrs. Frankline Bashme Mr. Godfrey Soans	1 1
Kerala-Kulathupuzha	:	Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan Mr. Stephen Purushothaman	2 1

Tamilnad : Jawadi Hills

Kalyanamandai	:	Mr. M. Jesudoss	1
Athipet	:	Mr. & Mrs. James Meyyan	2
Gundalathur	:	Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel	1
		Mrs. Sarama Samuel	1
Jamnamarathur	:	Mr. M. Aruldoss (Warden)	1
		Mrs. Annal Aruldoss	1
		Mr. Packianathan (Watchman)	1
		Mrs. Alamelu (Cook for hostel)	1
Nodanoor	:	Mr. G. A. Raju	1
		Mr. Victor Gnanarajan	1
Kattiankudisai	:	Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam	2
Thongumalai	:	,, ,, Ananda Chandrasekar	2
Allery	:	,, ,, P. A. Charles	2
Kandali-Karagapatti	:	Rev. Dn. A. Thiraviam	1
		Mrs. Pushpa Thiraviam (Bible Woman)	1
Veeranamalai	:	Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan	2

A girls hostel for the tribal girls of Jawadi is run with our finances. This year we have 19 girls in the hostel.

Organising Secretaries :

Mr. J. P. Ashwal	:	Karnataka & Bombay
,, K. Chandy	:	Kerala
,, Solomon Rajiah	:	Mid Tamil Nadu (Hony.)
Rev. S. Jeyapaul David	:	South Tamil Nadu
Mr. David Suresh	:	North Tamil Nadu
,, K. P. Sathyaraj	:	Central Karnataka
,, F. S. Charles	:	M. P. and Rajasthan
,, Ranjit Kumar	:	U. P. and Bihar
Rev. P. J. Victor	:	Andhra Pradesh

Office Staff 8 Members :

1.	P. C. Arumainayagam	: Administrative Officer
2.	Mr. Percy Francis	: Accountant
3.	Mrs. Shirley Samuel	: Steno Typist
4.	Miss Roseline Sarah	: Typist
5.	Mr. D. S. Dharmaraj	: Attender
6.	,, M. Jacob	: ,,
7.	,, Kotteeswaran	: ,,
8.	,, Samuel Ponnusamy	: Watchman
GENERAL SECRETARY		: Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH

Vacant Places to be Filled up :

Apart from the existing centres of work, the following places needs to be filled up and the work needs to be newly started.

Vacant :

Nepal	2 Centres
U. P.	5 Centres
Kashmir	2 Centres
Sikkim	3 Centres
M. P.	1 Centre
Bihar	2 Centres
West Bengal	2 Centres
Orissa	3 Centres
Rajasthan	1 Centre
Gujarat	2 Centres
Maharashtra	1 Centre
Karnataka	3 Centres
Himachal Pradesh	1 Centre
Andhra Pradesh	3 Centres
Haryana	1 Centre
Jawadhi	5 Centres
	35 Centres

New Proposals :

Andaman	2 Centres
M. P.	2 Centres
Maharashtra	2 Centres
Sikkim	2 Centres
West Bengal	2 Centres
Kerala	1 Centre
Bihar	2 Centres
Punjab	1 Centre
Goa	1 Centre
	15 Centres

The Committee has given the Green signal to the plan to send out another 100 people within the next two years. The Society needs committed men and women who are called of God to go to all the places and supporting churches and groups to sponsor them.

WEEKLY PRAYER CALENDAR

Sunday :

1) For the continuous revival in the Churches.
2) For the Bishops, Church Committees.
3) For all those who go for worship.
4) The churches may realize the responsibility of proclaiming the good news.
5) For all the evangelistic agencies in the country.

Monday :

1) For the country—peace, love and harmony may prevail.
2) For the President, Prime Minister, and all those who are in power in our country.
3) For all the political parties that they may not be power mongers, but they serve the country.
4) For the students, that they may study and obey their parents and educational authorities and they may not be diverted by the politicians.
5) For the Office bearers of the N.M.S. and Committee members, who are the Hon. Workers of the Society. Particularly for the President, Vice-Presidents, General Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Asso. General Secretaries that they may guide the Society in the fulfilment of God's plan.

Tuesday :

1) For the work in Kashmir, Nepal, Sikkim and Bageshwar.
2) For the converts, that they may stand firm in their faith and witness the Lord.
3) For the Evangelists and their families so that their vision may not be diminished but enlarged. The soul winning burden may be renewed day by day.

Wednesday :

1) For the work in West Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, U.P. & M.P.
2) For the Evangelists and their families.
3) For the new converts and enquirers.
4) For the educational work at Puri, and for the contacts made among the pilgrims.

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Thursday :

1) For the work in Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra.
2) For the Enquirers.
3) For the contacts made through distribution of tracts in all Centres.
4) For the Branch and Area Committees that they may spread the Missionary Vission to the people.
5) For the new workers and for their support.

Friday :

1) For the work in Tamilnad, Viz. Jawadhi Hills, Kandali, Karagapatti and Veeranam Malai.
2) For the converts.
3) The tribal barriers may be broken and people may accept Christ.
4) For the medical and educational work.
5) For the Girls in the hostel at Jamnamarathur.
6(For the evangelists who are working in 10 Centres of Jawadhi, Kandali-Karagapatti and Veeranam Malai.

Saturday :

1) For the secret believers.
2) For the worshipping group in the countries where there is no religious freedom, e.g. Nepal, Bhutan, Muslim and communist countries.
3) For the people who prepare themselves to preach, conduct the service on Sundays and for the ones who go for worship.
4) For the office staff at the headquarters.
5) For the Organising Secretaries, General Secretary and their families.

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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

ACTS. 5:25-42

The Command given to the disciples, while they were brought out of the prison by the angels, was to "Go stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life" Acts. 5:20. The disciples fearing no man went into the temple and started preaching. They obeyed the orders not caring whether they live or die.

They were found in the temple preaching vs. 25. It was reported to the Council "Behold the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people". Prison gates were opened to bring them out to proclaim their Lord. They were not ashamed. They were not afraid. They were told to proclaim Christ.

vs. 26-28. They were brought back to the Council and questioned. The police Officers were afraid of the crowd and with caution they brought the disciples to the furious council, comprised of the high priests and religious leaders. The disciples were charged with disobedience. They were already repeatedly instructed not to proclaim about Christ. They were in front of the people who were boiling with anger.

vs. 29-33. Peter the ring leader in the group and others expressed very boldly "we ought to obey God rather than men" (vs. 29-b). They went on preaching about Christ to the furious Council. They affirmed of what the religious leaders had done to Christ.

Even here they affirmed and said.

1. God of our father raised up Jesus.
2. Whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.
3. God exalted him to be the prince and Saviour.
4. to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

This may seem to be as they were trying to resist and block the boiling volcano from which hot lava flows as rivers. In a sense they were standing in front of the volcano. vs. 33 is a clear indication of it. "They took Council to slay them".

vs. 34-39. An advocate from the angered group, a pleader for the disciples to plead and to argue was raised. God has His own way to bring out salvation to His people to prove that He is a living God. It is explained about this man in vs. 34. This man was with Jesus for a secret consultation in the Gospel of John Chapter 3:16. Here he is as a secret believer, sitting among the volcano, but trying to seal the boiling volcano.

He warned them vs. 35.

He brought to their notice about the past experiences. vs. 36-37.

He pleaded for the disciples vs. 38.

He cautioned them vs. 39.

This is God's way of doing things Ps. 23:5a. God prepares a table in the presence of enemies. Have we realised this? If God is for us, no one can be against us. We also need to search ourselves. Are we working for God and his plan or against as the High Priests and Sanhedrim. May God raise up people like the secret believer to fight and plead for His people from among the high officials of our country.

vs. 40-42. The disciples were summoned back and they were beaten and commanded not to speak about Jesus and they let the disciples go. The disciples went out of the Council.

(a) Rejoicing for the shame they had to bear for Him.

(b) They met daily in the temple. Note they did not leave the temple, as some people leave the church, if they do not like certain things.

(c) They met in the houses.

(d) They continued to proclaim Jesus for which they were called.

May the Spirit of God strengthen us to proclaim Him.

J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Triennial Council of the N.M.S. was held at the Bishop Johnson Training Centre in Allahabad. The Council was hosted by the Allahabad branch and the U P. Area Committee of the N.M.S.I. The Rt. Rev. Din Dayal, the Bishop of Lucknow Diocese of the C.N.I. permitted us to have the Council in Allahabad. Mr. Arthur V. Singh and his team managed all the affairs of hosting the Council. People like Rev. Russel, President of the branch and Rev. Paul Das, the Vice President of the N.M.S. were behind the work. A number of pastors and friends helped to have the Council at Allahabad. Praise God for each one of them and on behalf of the N.M.S.I. I thank them.

The Council re-elected the Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews, Bishop of Kolhapur Diocese for the third term as the president of the N.M.S.

The Council also re-elected Mr. M. D. Selvaraj as the Hon. Treasurer for the third term. May the Lord help them to serve the Society during this Triennium too.

The N.M.S. Sunday was observed in several churches in the country. Thanks to the Presbyters, and Pastors for observing the N.M.S. Sunday in their areas.

After I returned from the Council at Allahabad, I visited Tanjore, Coimbatore, Ranipet and Arakonam. One day retreats were arranged in Coimbatore, Ranipet and Arakonam which are in the North Tamil Area. Another retreat was conducted in Vellore on the 14th Sunday 1984. I wish that many more retreats may be conducted periodically in different areas.

Five people were baptised in Basai. Praise God for these people who have come to the Lord. N:M.S. needs men and women who are called of God and committed for proclaiming the good news. If you know anyone, you may ask them to write to the General Secretary. We need people urgently. You are also requested to pray for this specific need.

The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building construction work is progressing day by day. This particular project needs your fervent prayers. Please pray that we may get the needed funds for the work,

I shall be thankful to you if you would kindly send me a few addresses of friends or relatives who will be willing to contribute Rs. 1000/- each towards this project. I shall very much appreciate your response.

We have to thank God for the peace which has come in Punjab. Let us continue to pray that the peace and Communal harmony remain in Punjab and in other states of our country.

I am always encouraged to know that many of you are regularly praying for me and I praise God for you.

May the Heavenly Father bless each and everyone of you.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. PART XXIII

The Opinion of Representative Missionaries

Rev. J. N. Foreman, American Presbyterian Mission.

"This is, I believe, a movement which is full of promise. This gives also an opportunity for the best of India's sons and daughters to consecrate their lives to distinctively Christian work. Many of them who have felt that they could not enter on Mission service will now, I hope, gladly give their lives to this service. Mav God grant that we may have great numbers of the best quality of volunteers! But the greatest thing is to get the Gospel to those who are dying for lack of knowledge. If our European and American Societies are failing to do this why should not India herself do the work? We are too apt to be satisfied with slight advances in our work, with local revivals and ingatherings. I, for one, am glad of

something which makes our church face the real problem, see the vast need, and get out of selfishness into service. Is not the Indian Church quite as ready for this work as the Churches in Europe and America were at the close of the 18th century? There is nothing to be gained by waiting till we are stronger. If we use the strength which we have now, God will give us more and more. At present the idea of having one strong interdenominational society appeals to me. Later on we may have a large number of denominational societies, as was the result of the founding of the A.B.C.F.M. If so, it will be no disadvantage for us to have worked together with our organisation in the day of small things. But may it not rather prove that this will lead other various denominations to put aside their differences, realize their essential unity, be drawn yearly closer together in sympathy and service, and so have a strong united Indian Church?"

Rev. Joseph West. Karur Wesleyan Mission, South India.

"The scheme has captured my imagination and faith, and I cannot but believe that the suggestion was given to you by God".

Arthur Lankester, M.D., C.M.S. Medical Mission, Peshawar.

"It is with the utmost thankfulness that I have heard of the proposal to establish a national (i.e. indigenous) Missionary Society for India. The idea, in very much the form which it has now taken, has been in my mind for years past. It would offer an ideal sphere for young Indian Christians who feel, as many are feeling today, called to devote their lives to Missionary work at the sacrifice of earthly prospects. An indigenous effort like this would stir up far more interest in the Indian Church than is aroused by the operation of Foreign Missionary Societies. And it would offer the one practical solution of the great problem unsolvable by the Foreign Agencies, of how to evangelize the vast tracts of this great land where, as yet, the Gospel of Salvation has not penetrated. I feel sure that it is being initiated on sound lines."

G. Hibbert Ware, S. Stephen's College, The Cambridge Mission, Delhi.

The inauguration of this scheme promises a new era in the evangelization of India. Not only may we look for a large multiplication of workers, but we may hope that traits of character, needed for the development of a national Christianity but too much neglected by workers in our own missions, may be brought out under the larger responsibilities and the greater calls for self-sacri-

fice which this scheme will bring. I believe that the work in the new fields will react with blessing on that in the old. If I may express an opinion on the practical working of the scheme, I will say that I am glad to think that many men who have not found a sphere of active Christian work under our present Societies will do so under this, and will prove by their devotion that their desire for the conversion of their fellow-countrymen needed only an opportunity to show itself by action. And I believe, too, that the fundamental principle of this Society, of respecting the conscience of each one of its workers with regard to Church organization, will enable it to be put on a sound working basis."

Songs that speak - Part 16 :

MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE

Hymn by Ray Palmer **Tune by Lowell Mason**

'Unto Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul'
Psalm 25:1.

Way down in the year 1955 I was miraculously converted in a revival meeting. The preacher, whose name I do not remember now, showed me that only Christ saves. The words fell deep into my heart and I decided to accept Jesus as my Saviour. As I made the decision the choir sang the beautiful hymn "My faith looks up to Thee". At that moment I was looking to Jesus for grace. From that time onwards I always cherish this as the hymn of my conversion.

In fact that was the experience of Ray Palmer who composed this beautiful hymn. "I gave form to what I felt", he used to say afterwards. His tender emotions soon crystallised in the form of this lovely hymn. He carried it in his pocket notebook and whenever he read it, his eyes were filled with tears. One day Lowell Mason asked him to contribute a few hymns to be included in his new hymnal; Palmer gave him this precious poem. Lowell Mason was touched by its beauty and composed the tune Olivet for it. Both the hymn and its tune portray the life of a penitent sinner right from his conversion, dedication, trials and victory. The first stanza depicts his plea and decision.

1. My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary'
Saviour divine
Now hear me while I pray
Take all my guilt away
Oh, let me from this day
Be wholly Thine.

The first step in salvation is conversion. We are saved by grace through faith. The penitent soul cries out for mercy. When once the decision is made to be God's child, the onward march towards life eternal begins. The second stanza describes this second step.

2. May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire,
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee,
Pure, warm and changeless be
A living fire.

The second step in salvation is receiving strength from God. God never leaves one helpless. He strengthens the weak and fills him with his spirit. That salvation is not by works but by grace. It is priceless yet it is free. "He died for me and so I will llve for Him". is the motto of every saved soul. This leads him day by day in the paths of righteousness, trust and peace. His love for his redeemer is pure, warm and changless. His life soon bears the fruits of the spirit not only in season but also out of season. The third stanza describes the life of a redeemed person.

2. While llfe's dark maize I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide,
Bid darkness turn to-day.
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray,
From Thee aside.

Christian life is not a bed of roses. After water and spirit baptisms one has to be baptized with fire. He has to walk through the valley of tears. Sorrow, tears and agony may be his lot but his never failing redeemer in his guide. All these troubles only purify him in order to increase his value. Oh dear reader !. Do not despair at your sorrows. The Lord will surely lead you. Trust in Him and march forward. The last stanza it sealed with Christian hope.

4. When ends life's transient dream
When death!s cold sullen stream
Shall O'er me roll
Blest Saviour, then in love'
Fear and distrust remove,
Oh, bear me safe above
A ransomed soul.

Death does not end life. It may be cold and bitter but Jesus through his death and burial has transformed it into the way of life eternal. By death we escape from death and gain life eternal. What a wonderful promise it is ! Are you saved ? Are you washed in the blood of Jesus ? If so you need not fear death as your death is swallowed by the death of Jesus. When once a person trusts in Jesus life eternal starts in him and there is no death for him. Have you had this experience ?

During the civil war days seven or eight christian soldiers met in a tent for a dash of prayer. They were not sure whether they would see the next evening as they were in the war front. After prayer one of them, to affirm his faith in Jesus wrote this hymn in a piece of paper and signed his name under it. Others too signed and they all put their trust on the lamb of Calvary. In a few days all but one were killed in the battle. Only one survived to tell the story of the conversion of his pals.

Time in running short. Won't you look at Jesus and be saved today ?

Rev. Jeans I. Jeyachandran, Ph.D., D.D.

FIELD REPORTS

Kulathupuzha :

Efforts to spread the message of the Lord Jesus Christ are being continued among the adivasis, in this area. Here also God continues to hear the prayers and heals many sick people from their ailments. Let us Praise God for His healing Hand.

In Mampazhathara, an adjoining area at a distance of 31 kms. from Kulathupuzha work has just begun. To reach this area one has to go by walk for 15 kms. which is really a challenging task. Let us pray to God that He may uphold the efforts and strengthen the evangelist to continue his work amidst all these difficulties and challenges.

Gundalathoor :

The recent monsoon failure has been a hard blow for the people of this entire area. Please pray that God should shower the latter rain upon them abundantly. There are 38 villages which are visited and word of God preached frequently in a humble way. Mrs. Sarama Jeyaraj seems to have good response, through her medical Work Many with different ailments were treated stressing the effects of believing Lord Jesus Christ. M/s Annammal and Nadupyan experienced the healing touch. Let us pray that their faith and belief in the gospel may be strengthened. Evang. Jeyaraj summing up the reports notes that there is an urgent need for the construction of a Prayer shed and supply of a black board for use tn the School.

Athipattu :

Evang. Meyyan reports that he has visited 17 villages and about 200 came to know the love of Christ- Medical Work is also simultaneously done according to the local needs. Open Air preaching is regularly conducted during weekly, Monday market centre, and there is strong opposition to our work. Individuals and even groups are involved, So let us look to God to give protection and continue this fruitful ministry amidst these stiff oppositions.

Veerapanur is also covered by Mr. Meyyan. Let us pray to God for an evangelist who could solely concentrate in this village

and to build it up for His Glory. Specially let us remember Mr. Govindan, for his steadfast growth which at times in shaky,

Kandali—Karagapatti :

Bible study, Sunday Worship and night schools are being held continuously. Let us Praisc God for the contacts established through these channels. Individual christian families are of immense help in conducting meetings. Visits by Rev. Christopher, Presbyter, Tirupathur C.S.I. Church, Mr. Alfred Area Secretary and other members have helped us to strengthen the work and to create good fellowship among the Christians and the converts. Particularly your prayer is solicited for these individuals who are willing to accept Christ through baptism: M/s Subramani, Mani, Selvam, Selvi, Mala, Selvirani, Vaijayanthi and Suseela. The field is thickly populated by Hindu extremists, and R.S.S. elements. Hence God's special protection is specicIly needed for carrying on the ministry.

Allery :

As noted in previous issue of our N.M.I. 2 families have gone back to their old faith. In addition to this, individuals and Panchayat members as a whole are opposing our ministry indirectly. But the enquiry reveals that the defectors have still a feeble faith. Our special prayers are needed for these families and the evangelist, so that they can once again acknowledge the true and living God in all faith and sincerity. The work among the surrounding villages continue to have progress.

Kattiyankudisai :

Yesterday, today and forever God is unchanging and unfailing. This is experienced by Mr. Doraiswamy. His firm faith was crowned with success. It has appealed to many to the point of questioning "who is that Christ." Let us intercede that these earnest seekers may also find the same true and unfailing God in their personal lives. Regular weekly fasting prayers are held on Fridays. Many sick people are rendered medical help. Our effective prayers are needed to uphold these people for sustaining their budding faith.

Veeranamalai :

Work among Lambadies is progressing. Sunday schools for the children is shortly to begin as per reports of the evangelist.

His efforts in learning the Lambadie's language should be blessed by God's grace and mercy. Ministering to the locals, in their language may be a feasible solution for the successful work in this area. The visit by Rev. Christopher, Presbyter, C.S.I. Tirupathur church, has strengthened the fellowship and the work. The field needs a cycle, projector, and record player. Surely these instruments would help for a better and speedy converage of the gospel. Let us Praise God, for there is no visible opposition in this area. Let us ask God that the existing congenial atmosphere may continue to prevail and work wonders among the converts and others.

Jamnamarathur :

Let us thank God for the regular all night prayers and Monday market preaching. The incessant prayers offered for the small girl Selvi, relieved her of the demon possession, and she is free now. Mr. Gopal of Vallakkovoor a temple priest has had the chance to hear the gospel. In this regard, our fervent prayers are needed in order that people might understand the love of God manifeasted through His son on the cross. Villagers from the neighbouring village Kavalur came for prayers with different ailments. It is said in a challenging way that if our prayers are heard she would accept the Lord Jesus Christ. So let us remember these villagers also in our daily prayers.

Nadanur :

Regular visits by the members of St. John's Church, Vellore have been a blessing for ministry in this area coupled with medical aid extended to the sick. This helps to establish contacts. Evangelist Raju reports the steadfast faith of Thiru Vellaian in in Christ, while the latter was sick his father arranged the visits by a local temple priest and also some magicians to get him healed, but all these efforts were futile. Thiru Vellaian said, "What ever disease may inflict me I will not forsake my faith from Christianity" Let us thank God. for the staunch faith of this convert and uphold him in a special way. So let us continue to pray with a perseverance for these people.

Nadanur field requires a "Walkie Talkie", Let us pray, plan and participate in this divine ministry.

Thongumalai :

Evang. Chandrasekaran acknowledging his work being continuously led by Holy spirit, further reports the miraculous healing

experienced by M/S Kuppu and Ponnuswamy. This has made a great impact in the minds of the people. Our prayers should help them to lead a more closer life with Christ. The converts and others realising the impact of prayer, help many to attend regularly the prayer sessions.

Hebri :

Ministry at various places and at different levels are continued. Visits to villages and establishing personal contact are undertaken for effectiveness of the gospel. Many eagerly receive the literatures, and personal evangelism is followed up.

At Kekanji village on the evangelists way back home, 13 boys and girls were told Bible stories, and gospel and it was responded well Let us pray that the Holy spirit may continue His work in the minds of the young people. Also do remember others, who were told about the gospel.

Puri—Orissa :

Rev. Sanjeevi reports that strong opposition was experienced during the Car festival even for distribution of tracts. Some furious men caused disturbances and destroyed the literatures intended for distribution. These Hindu extremists tsking note of the gradual growth of Christian population are much worried, they feel that at this rate whole India might turn to be a Christian country within half a century. Please pray that these opposing elements and forces should come to know the love of God. Also pray for a good house for Rev. Sanjeevi and an assistant for the library at Puri.

Basai—M.P. God of Grace and of Miracles

Mr. Ganesh a contractor exclaiming the wondrous deeds of God the Almighty writes in his letter as follows: Since the labourers are engaged in hard manual labour they are accustomed to drink liquor. As a result of this, some were the victims due to ill effects of this habit, another individual's eye sight has been totally affected.

The doctors who attended on this individual also gave up the hope of his eye sight being restored through medical aid. At this critical situation our evangelists at Basai, conforted and consoled them with the word of God and prayer. After a lapse of 45 days on 26—8—84, the individual was able to improve his lost eye sight. This is really a miracle experienced by this individual and witnessed by the people around him. Let us pray that he may get his lost eye sight completely and be a witness to the other non-Christians.

BRANCH AND AREA NEWS :

A one day meeting was held in Coimbatore on 4—10—1284 at C.S.I. Higher Secondary School. The Area Leader Mr. Samuel Gnanakadatcham took up the responsibility and conducted the meeting. Prof. packiamani, Rev. Jayasingh and Rev. Jayapaul David spoke on the individual responsibility for a Missionary movement. Even though rains continued to batter the city on the day there was good rssponse. Mr. Samuel Gnanakadatcham the Area Secretary organised the retreat. The help rendered by the local youth group of N.M.S. is much appreciated.

On 7th Oct. 1984 under the auspices of C.S.I. St. Mary's Church, Ranipet, a one day retreat was conducted. The Presbyter. Rev. Mahimai Rufus and Church Committee arranged for the entire programme. Evangelists and Rev. Jayasingh shared the word of God in the morning service which was followed by the days meeting. There was a good response from the local and Area Churches who actively participated in the days deliberations, By way of group discussions, participants realized their responsidility in the context of Missions. Area leader Mr. Alfred led the intercessary prayers and proposed vote of thanks.

St. Andrew's Church, Arakonam is celebrating its Centenary Celebrations on this occasion and a week of Evangelism was observed. Our Organisation was invited to hold a missionary retreat on 13th and 14th of Oct. 1984. The word of God was shared by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh and Mr. David Suresh with two witnesses from Brahmin background. This aroused the participants interest and their responsibility for the missionary work. The Presbyters and Pastorate Committee had made all the arrangements for the successful conduct of the meeting.

NEWS FROM NORTH TAMIL AREA :

Mr. Joseph Asirvatham, his daughter Mrs. Mary Florence and his daughter-in-law Mrs. Napolean of Gandhinagar, Vellore visited Jamnamarathur on evangelistic tour. They laid the foundation for Girls' Hostel over the present block. Mrs. Mary Florence donated Rs. 1000/- as her offerings for the Girls Hostel building. Mr. Joseph Asirvatham gave an inspiring message in the Sunday Service celebrated in the N.M.S. Chapel.

Mrs. & Mr. Aruldoss Evangelist explained to them the need for the Tribal Girls Hostel in the hills.

N.M.S. Youth Wing :

A few young people under the leadership of Mr. S. Prince Calvin met together and formed an N.M.S. Youth Wing in Coimbatore on 1—6—1984. They have conducted two youth retreats. They are guided by Mr. Samuel Gnanakadatcham, the Area Secretary for Coimbatore and Nilgiris.

This Youth Wing was the result of the N.M.S. Student Camp held during 1983 in Coimbatore. Mr. Prince Calvin was a participant.

I congratulate this Youth Wing of the N.M.S. and I Pray that they may be useful instruments in the Church and in the Society.

BRANCH NEWS :

Mr. Solomon Rajayya reports that he was invited to conduct a retreat at the Pugalur C.S.I. Church on 9—9—1984 where he and his wife participated and he was able to meet a few members for the N.M.S. He has also written that one Mr. Sathianathan has agreed to collect the subscriptions from that area.

I am very happy that an N.M.S. branch has been formed at Villupuram S.A. Dist. from July 1984 with Rev. Charles Singaram, Presbyter, St. James Church, as President, and Mr. A. Selvaraj as Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.

Another branch has been fromed at Dharapuram, Periyar District from August 1984 with Rev. P. Dorairaj, Dist. Chairman, C.S.I. Church, as President, and Mrs Mary Selvaraj as Secretary & Treasurer.

Thanks to the Presbyters and other members who have extended their co-operation in forming these branches. May the God guide and bless them in their efforts.

THOUGHT TITBITS

The Happiest People :

Jesus Christ wants us to follow Him in Christian service. All christians are saved to serve Him. You are either serving Him or being served. Every christian is either a missionary force or a mission field. God uses man to do His work, and seeks to fill your life by not only overcoming your weaknesses, but making you productive and effective in His service. The productivity is not only eternally meaningful, but it is actually therapeutic.

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Man is so devised that he is frustrated when he does not serve his creator. The happiest people in the world are those who are productive for Jesus Christ.

—Collected by
Udyogammandal
Fellowship.

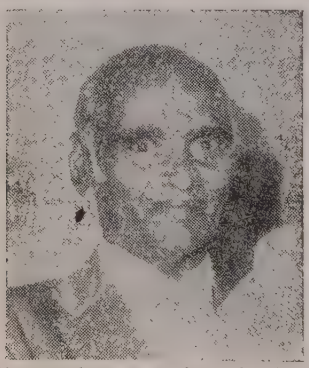
DR. LATTAYE.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Gnanabaranam Devaeevu of Madurai went to be with the Lord at 7 p.m. on 9-8-1984. N.M.S. of India thanks God for her devoted life.

Mr. D. C. Martin of Trichy passed away to be in eternal rest with the Lord on 23-3-84. He was a Life Member and ardent prayer partner. The N.M.S. conveys its sincere condolences to his wife and others in the family.

Mr. G. Vincent—Munnar, outstanding Secretary of the Munnar Branch entered into glory on 17-4-1984. His involvement and interest for the N.M.S. has no limits, right from his boyhood till his death. He was the Hon. Secretary of the Munnar Branch. His keen participation in the work is highly commendable. His interests in Church activities as an Organist, and Hon. Secretary of the Pastorate are praiseworthy.



The N.M.S. of India offers its condolence to the bereaved family and prays that God may give them strength to bear the loss.

Mrs. Daisy M. Samuel Retired Deputy Commercial Tax Officer and wife of Mr. M. Samuel of Anna Nagar passed away after a brief illness patiently borne on 25-9-1984. She was always a strong supporter of N.M.S. The Society offers its sincere condolence to the bereaved family.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO YOU ALL

JESUS CAME TO THIS WORLD

'83 Christmas Programme of Nadanoor—Photo Rev. Jayapaul David

Two tribal girls of Thongumalai—Photo Rev. J. M. Jayasingh

EVEN FOR THESE TRIBAL CHILDREN

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The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Luke 1:46-55.

The birth of Jesus was announced in the Old Testament passages repeatedly even from Gen. 3:15 The Israelites were living with a hope of a Messiah. They were thinking in their way to see the messiah, but God had a different plan, to bring out His salvation to the people of the whole world. To fulfil His plan he has used people as instruments. He has used the people who would be willing to take the risk, who would be available for Him, who would be humble and lowly and not the proud and haughty.

The birth of Jesus the Emmanuel was announced to Mary and she was conceived of Holy Spirit. All these took place after her betrothel with Joseph, soon after Mary visited her relative Elizabeth expresses herself from her heart. Vs. 39-45. Soon after the expressions of Elizabeth was over, it is said in Vs. 46. "And Mary said....."

This song, which the church sings whenever mostly it assembles as the magnificat."

In this song the major portion or rather the entire portion is alloted to God and His greatness. Throughout the Old Testament we find the Israelites praising God by expressing His greatness. All through the Psalms we see it God s name has been expressed in different ways. A related song is found in I Samuel 2:1-10. where Hannah expresses herself.

Mary begins with saying My soul doth magnify the Lord. Praise comes from within, in a personal way, addressing Him as Lord, admitting Him as her ruler and King. In a booklet written by Mrs. I. Kuriyan, who was connected with the N.M.S. (Ladies Auxiliary Madras) for a long time she states : " Until 1961, I was only a nominal Christian, I devoted my life to Social Work both in Madras and Kerala from 1916-1950. All those years while doing social service, I never took the opportunity to speak about Christ to any one." It was Mary's personal experience with the Living God that made her to confess Him as Lord.

Further she expresses Vs. 47. "And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour". She declares that God is her Saviour. He is not only the Lord, the one who rules her but He is her Saviour too. It was a personal declaration from the experience she had with God.

Vs. 48-55 narrate what her Lord, God, and Saviour has done to her and to the chosen generation.

a) What He has done to Mr—Vs. 48.

She humbles herself as of low estate and makes her as His servant.

When a person is met by God in a personal way, he humbles himself or herself. But very soon the spiritual pride creeps in and seeks for personal glorification. Such people, expect, publicity, about their preaching ability! healing ability! musical talents! the degrees secured! but forgets to look back to their humble and low estates. After a beautiful sermon people appreciate the preacher, and the preacher thought of himself as something, forgetting, that he was only an instrument in God's hand. Today we Pastors, Preachers, Evangelists, seek publicity glorified and honoured words and positions. A woman who was found worthy in the presence of God humbles herself.

b) Realized God's mighty acts —Vs. 49

In considering a person of low estate, speaks of God's greatness. God coming down to the level of man did not think of a man in his great ability, power of speech position and etc., but thought of the person whose life could be available for God. It was said of D. L. Moody, when hes expressed to his uncle that, he is going to preach and God wants him to do so. his uncle told him, "you do not know how to speak a sentence in English and then how are you going to preach". D. L. Moody started preaching in broken English but it was said he was able to capture the attention of the audience within a few minutes, because the Holy Spirit handled D. L. Moody in His hand. God is prepared to show His mighty acts only through the people who would realize His greatness.

c) God's mercy is to the one who fear him. Vs. 50.

His mercy will be with the ones who fear Him. Recently at a retreat a person pointed to the preacher and said, you preachers and Pastors do not wish to talk about the fear of God, but you love to preach over only on the love of God. If some one loves God, automatically he fears God. Love does not mean that people has no fear about God. Servants of God need to have the holy fear in their lives. Let us not take it for granted, that God will forgive all what we do, because of our service to Him and to the church. No, we are responsible for what we do. His mercy will continue to be with his children from generation to generation, who fear Him.

d) God scattered the proud Vs. 51.

The proud person has no place before God. He destroys such people. Pride in a person makes him/her to think about others, as nothing, and useless. One fine morning a friend of mine came into my home and started talking about a well known person, for some time they were good friends. Later on I found that person does the same thing with every one who comes in contact. I also found the proud and haughty attitude with him. God can never tolerate the pride in a believers life. He will scatter them. God came down to this world to scatter the proud. The proud begins right in the heart, and it cannot be seen out side. Recently after a sermon, a few people approached me and expressed that the sermon was good and useful for them. As I walked to my room, where I was staying, the devil added a few more thoughts and I felt, within a bit of pride, but the spirit of God pointed to me the place I have given to pride. Immediately I looked back into my past life and asked Him to cleanse me. Let us not forget that God will never allow us to have the glory, which belongs to him.

e) God's mighty acts are expressed. Vs. 52-53.

1. He has put down the mighty from their seats.
2. Exalted the people of low estate.
3. He has filled the hungry with good things.
4. He has sent the rich empty.

Mighty kings, rulers and powers had been destroyed since the birth of Jesus. Crowns of the kings were brought down. Uncared, and untouchables were brought up to top places. Life styles were changed. Cannibals and head hunters changed their life. Tremendous changes had been made in the civilization of man since Christ came down to this world. Poor people were made rich. Poor in spirit was made rich in spirit. He has made the rich empty. A total revolution is seen in these few verses.

f) All these in remembrance of His mercy and promise. Vs. 54-55.

All what Mary sang was in realizing the mercy and the unchanging promise of God. As He never changes, His promises to His children never change.

As we think of Christmas let us realize as Mary has realized in her life. May the spirit of God speak to us during this Christmas. Christmas is the fulfilment of God's promise with man.

J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Assassination of our Prime Minister

31st of October 1984 was a day of shock to every one in our country. The sad news of the assassination of our Prime Minister made every one upset. Offices, Schools and Colleges were closed down to mourn the death of Mrs. Indira Gandhi. People were stranded as the vehicles were stopped by the agitating group. People also had to run for safety as communnal disturbances raised its head in different States. On behalf of the Society I do express my heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved members of the family and to our own nation. May the Lord forgive the ones who plotted the assassination and acted on it.

New Prime Minister

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was appointed as the Prime Minister of India on the same evening by the President of India. May the Lord grant him wisdom and knowledge to guide the nation in the right path as King Solomon was empowered with the wisdom from above. On behalf of the Society I congratulate him and assure him and his cabinet of our prayers.

Visit of the General Secretary

On the 16th of October 1984 I was at Tiruvella at the invitation of the Mar Thoma Church to speak and congratulate the Very Rev. P. J. Thomas, N.M.S. General Secretary from 1962-1965, on his 81st birthday. This gave me the unique opportunity to meet the friends of Tiruvella, church heads and particularly the family members of the Very Rev. P. J. Thomas. One of his sons is a regular contributor, but would like to remain only as a friend. On behalf of the Societv I wish and pray that the Lord Jesus may continue to use Rev. P. J. Thomas and his family as instruments in God's hand. Thanks to the church authorities for inviting me to be present on the occasion.

I had the opportunity of speaking to the students and staff of the following institutions.

Mar Thoma Residential Shool.

Mar Thoma Academy.

Kombadi Bible Institute.

Bible Institute of India Evangelize fellowship.

The programmes were organised by Mr. K. Chandy, Organising Secretary. A prayer meeting was arranged at the Mar Thoma chapel at Cherinad by Mr. M. G. Varghese, an Executive member of the N.M.S.

I also had a short time of prayer and fellowship at Mr. V. K. Eappen's house along with the Executive Committee members from Kerala.

At Trivandrum

The area committee was able to organise a prayer meeting and visit a few friends. It was also arranged by the area Secretary Miss Vilasini White for me to speak at the Tamil Service at the M. M. Church in Trivandrum. The Rev. Moses Israel of the C. S. I. Kannanmoola church invited me to speak about the N.M.S. and give a message. Thanks to him.

The President Mr. G. George and Secretary Miss Vilasini White accompanied me to visit different people.

Vijayawada

Visit to Vijayawada was organised by the Rev. P. J. Victor, our Organising Secretary. I was able to speak in different places and church services. God made it possible to organise the Vijayawada area committee, under the patronship of the Rt. Rev. T. B. S. Prakasa Rao, Bishop in Krishna-Godawari Diocese. The following are the office bearers of the Vijayawada Area Committee :

President : Rev. D. V. Daniel

Director : Srivarthavan

1st Vice President : Rev. Joel, St. Pauls Parish Hall.

All the presbyters in the city are the Vice Presidents.

Secretary : Mrs. Sarala Veni Prabhakar.

Treasurer : Mr. A. K. Asap.

Kindly pray for this newly formed area committee.

New Appointment

Mr. Bir Singh Adenu Lepcha of Kalingpong is appointed as evangelist to work in East Sikkim. Kindly pray for him and the ministry.

Madurai

Madurai Area Committee had its annual sale on 10th November 1984.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building

The work is progressing and it needs your prayer support. Otherwise we will not be able to complete the work in the prescribed time.

Christmas—1984

The Christmas is fast approaching and we have the practice of cheering our people, our friends and family members. We have also the practice of sending some Christmas cheers

to the N.M.S. Evangelists and missionaries who are working in different places. This was started while the late Bishop the Rt. Rev. R. D. Joshi of the Methodist Church was the President of N.M.S.. I appeal to the friends and well wishers of the N.M.S. to contribute for N. M. S workers, Christmas cheer. Kindly send such donations specifying Christmas gift or Christmas cheer to the Hon. Treasurer N.M.S. of India. No personal and direct gifts are encouraged.

May this Christmas be a blessing to each one of us.

May His presence continue to be with us as EMMANUEL.

With prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

N. M. S. Sunday Service at Lucknow

N. M. S. Sunday was observed in the Central Methodist Church, Lucknow which was a great success.

Mr. Ranjit Kumar, the Organising Secretary, for U. P. and Bihar, gave a challenging message which was heard with rapt attention. The retiring collection that was taken at the end of the Service amounted to Rs. 272-85. We thank God that we could have the Sunday Service with the help and co-operation of the Pastor Rev. H. B. Ram.

A. H. KHAN,
U.P. Area Secretary.

FIELD NEWS

Sikkim : Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal.

A convention was held at the Gangtok C.N.I. Church and our evangelists participated in that. M/s. V. T. Abraham and Daniel Bal joined together and visited many villages. The hospitals in Singtam and Gangtok were visited by our Missionaries and they prayed for the sick. In Gods Providence 5 people were baptized at Singtom and added to the C.N.I. Church. Praise God for these new converts.

We have appointed Mr. Bir Singh Adenu Lepcha of Kalingpang to work as the N.M.S. Evangelist in East Sikkim. Your prayers are requested for the new converts and for the evangelists and their families.

Bihar Sharrif : Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Wahdi.

Mrs. Lata with her two children have accepted Jesus. Praise God for Mrs. Lata. She is thrown out of her house because of the new faith. Please remember her in your prayers. Mr. A. H. Wahdi had a mild heart attack. He is better now Praise God for healing him. You are also requested to pray for his complete cure.

There are about 50 people who have come into the saving grace. Only about 15 are baptised and others need to be baptised. We are planning for a seekers conference (For the converts in Bihar Sharrif and surrounoings) at Patna. It may cost about Rs. 2,500/-. Please pray for the leaders and for the needed funds. This may take place only in March or April 1985.

Puri, Pentecottah, Nolayasahi : Rev. Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sanjeevi, Mr. & Mrs. Daud Sagar, Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi, Mr. R. V. Ramana, Mrs. Kotesswara Rao.

The regular school work is going on at Pentacottah, through which the students' parents are contacted. One Kanakamma who was ill for some time came to the Church and the congregation prayed for her. She was healed and she is regularly attending the church services.

Mrs. Dayavathy (a convert) whose 3 year old son was swept away by the sea and found floating about one kilometer inside by the people in a fishing boat. They found that the boy was safe. People thought that the boy died but he was alive. All the people joined together and glorified God for the boy's miraculous escape.

At the Nolayasahi area, two young men are willing to accept Jesus as their God and Saviour. They regularly learn the word of God from our evangelist. Non Christians are attending the cottage prayer meetings both at Nolayasahi and Pentacottah. Your

prayers are requested for these non-christians who come in contact with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Basai : Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Yovab Singh, Mr. R. Stanley Mohan.

They write: A Hindu gentleman called Rampad was against the presentation of the gospel. His 17 year old son fell ill. Our missionaries prayed for him and God healed him. Both the father and the son have accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour. Praise God for this. Mr. Stephen from Jhansi joined our evangelists and worked among the school children. A Hindi film about Jesus was shown in Basai. It was sent by the F.M.P.B. workers in Jhansi. Thanks to them for their help. This film has touched many hearts. Please pray for the Hindu President who was very much astonished about this.

Our work is extended to the workers at the Mathathila Dam, where there are a few Tamil families.

Please pray for the converts, for the seekers and for the people who oppose the work.

Kashmir : Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih.

He has visited the following places and proclaimed the good news; namely Batpora, Syedapora, Ner Bagh, Babira, Varpaho, Shanama, Buser Bagh, Kongon, Mir Gund, Ganivon, Surufrae Hakhnar, Palpora, Cherwan, Hagon, Buen Bagh, Tulmul, Chanduin, Safapora, Darinda, Chhettar Gul and Behama.

Tracts were distributed. There were several people who asked about their doubts, their questions were answered. Please pray for the seekers and interested persons. Kindly pray for the converts, that they may be strengthened in their faith.

Two more workers are needed for Kashmir work. The Society is trying its best for recruiting suitable candidates for the posts.

Kulathupuzha : Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan, & Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

The work among the tribals and the Tamils are progressing. The labourers at the Thenmala Dam were also contacted. One of the labourers, Mr. Subramaniam has shown much interest in the gospel. Please pray that he may accept Christ in his life. The Kanees (tribals) are interested in the Gospel.

JAWADHI HILLS

Jamnamarathur : Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss.

Hostel building work for the tribal girls is progressing under the supervision of Mr. R. Alfred, Area Secretary and Mr. Asirvatham. Your prayers are requested

1) for the completion of the work and for the needed funds.
2) for Kasi, Chandran and Kuppusamy, who are the night school students, willing to accept Christ.
3) for the boys at the night school so that they may learn more about Jesus.
4) for the congregation members and converts.

A group of U.T.C. students under the leadership of Dr. Baker visited Jamnamarathur. They were brought by Mr.S.V.Thondaman.

Gundalathur : Mr. Jayaraj Samuel, & Mrs. Saramma Jayaraj.

Some time back it was reported that a man had a vision in which Jesus came and pointed a place to dig the well. That man dug the well at that suggested spot and got water. People continue to live in sin and oun workers continue to proclaim the good news. Children and young people continue to attend the night school.

The following is an incident, which gave the workers an opportunity to proclaim the good news. Mr. Jayaraj Samuel went to Jamnamarathur to purchase provisions. Comments were read about Mr. Kannadasan a Tamil poet and about his songs. It was said about God and that God lives in the dols made by man. Immediately Mr. Jayaraj was inspired to speak about God from the Bible and he quoted David and the Psalm 115: 3-8 and asked if God is in the idols made by man, why they are not moving? If God is in it, it should move, but God has created man and lives in the man and that is why man is moving. Man is the temple wherein God lives. By hearing this all the people kept quiet. Let us pray that God may open the minds of these people to accept Him.

The medical work in this area is also progressing. It influenced the people to learn about Jesus.

Kalyanamandai : Mr. M. Jesudoss.

He writes "Where ever I go I found people thirsting for gospel. In some villages I was forced to stay by the people and preach one more day. I praise the Lord for He has given to the people the hunger after righteousness. There are many enquirers." Some people who were possessed with evil spirits were delivered and it has enabled them and their families to put their faith in Christ Jesus. 3 people have accepted Christ. Prayers are requested for these people who are eager to know about Christ, who are seekers and converts.

Thungumalai : Mr. & Mrs. A. Chandrasekaran.

Mr. Narayanan a seeker, whose father is also interested in the gospel has promised that he would worship only Jesus. The follow-

ing persons are being prepared for baptism—Ponnusamy, Geeta, Narayanan and family, Duraisamy and Vijaya. They need your prayers.

Kattiankudisai : Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam.

The local Panchayat was called to unite a broken family, but they invited our evangelist to guide them. Mr. Devairakkam advised them from the word of God and the family was united. Praise God for this event.

Duraisamy of Veerapettai village is opposed by his people because he worships Christ. He needs your prayers, to stand firm in the faith.

Another young man called Chinnapaiyyan of Valliyur village is listening to the gospel message regularly. While talking to him about baptism, he said, that if he took babtism none from his village will bury him. He needs a firm faith in Christ. You are requested to pray for him.

Nadanoor : Mr. G. A. Raju & Mr. Victor Gnanarajan.

The work in the area is medical, educational and evangelistic. A few Government officers who came to visit the area also joined with our workers in their evangelistic work.

Allery : Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles

The back slidden converts are attending the worship services. They need your fervent prayers. The other evangelists in Jawadhi Hills joined the work in Allery for two days. This helped the back slidden converts to re-think about their decision to go back to their old faith.

N. B. This year Christmas programmes will be held in all the stations only on 24th and 25th December. Please pray for the Christmas programmes.

Veeranamalai : Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan.

Mr. Velmurugan had met with an accident while he went for visiting villagers, and was injured. He needs your prayers. His wife has delivered a male baby. Please pray for their good health. Kindly continue to pray for their ministry among the poor Lambadi people.

Kandali—Karagapatti : Mr. & Mrs. Thiraviam.

The U. T. C. students visited the area under the leadership of Dr. Baker. They were guided by Mr. S. V. Thondaiman of the Christukula Ashram.

M/s. T. Subramani, Varathan and Kasi are being prepared for baptism. Please pray that they may be rooted in their faith. There are many sick people coming for prayer. Please pray that they may be healed both physically and spiritually.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. PART XXIV

The Opinion of Representative Missionaries.

Dr. S. Gaster, C.M.S., Dera Ghazi Khan, Punjab.

"When I read your letter, I was filled with joy, and hardly knew how to express my thanks to God for this sign that His Spirit is awakening the Indian Church to a sense of her responsibility and potentiality in regard to the evangelization of India."

Rev. G. G. Brown, A.B.C.F.M., Jaffna, Ceylon.

"The movement has my most hearty approval, and I wish it all success."

W. E. Nicoll, United Presbyterian Mission, Rawal Pindi.

"The proposal meets with my hearty approval for the following reasons :— If the Church is to continue as a Church and fulfil the mission which the Master has in mind for her, then she must become a Missionary Church, and experience in a truer measure than she has yet experienced the blessings of sacrifice—'The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few.' As we stand face to face with these facts, can we do otherwise than encourage in every way possible every agency which promises to meet this crying need of the people for spiritual bread? On all sides we see these unoccupied fields. May this not be the Master's way of occupying them? It cannot help but be largely instrumental in cementing the bonds that are to bind the Christian community of India together and make them a mighty power in the evangelization of this vast empire."

Rev. C. H. Monaliam, Wesleyan Missionary Society, Madras.

"I am very deeply interested in the National Missionary Society movement. It is certainly a step in the right direction. The idea appears to me to be of God."

Rev. A. E. Dibben, Secretary, C.M.S., Colombo.

"I am in full sympathy with the Indian Missionary Society. I am of opinion that it will meet a long-felt want, and that it is likely to stimulate the missionary zeal of Indian Christians and to

give them such a scope for their energies as they seem to need. Moreover, I think the project, so far as I have seen it outlined, is wisely and well planned. I trust it may soon become in the Lord's hands an extensive evangelizing power in India and Ceylon."

Many other favourable replies have been received, but space forbids quoting from more. Before going to press copies of several resolutions passed by various bodies have reached us.

Resolution adopted by the Synod of Rajputana Presbytn. Church in India.

"The Synod having heard of the proposal to form a National Missionary Society of India, rejoice in this manifestation of enthusiasm for the spread of the Gospel in India by the people of India, and pray that the movement may be guided to a wise and successful issue; meanwhile instruct the Missionary Committee to consider what means may be adopted to ensure co-operation on suitable lines with this movement, and to arrange for such co-operation whenever found practicable."

Resolution adopted by the C.M.S. Missionaries of the United Provinces.

"That this Conference having heard of the movement to form an Indian Missionary Society-officered, financed and managed entirely by Indian Christians, with unoccupied fields as a prospective sphere of effort, heartily sympathizes with the scheme, and wishes it God-speed."

Resolution adopted by the Mussoorie Missionary Conference.

"The North India Conference of Christian Workers, looking at the unoccupied fields of India, feels deeply that the Missionary Agencies now at work are wholly inadequate. The Conference, therefore, has heard with great joy and devout thankfulness of the proposal that the Indian Christians of the Empire unite in a Society, whose object shall be to evangelize these unreached millions; and believing that is a movement guided by God's Holy Spirit, they heartily commend it to all the Missionary Societies, and, above all, to the constant intercession of Christ's Body throughout India and the world."

N.M.S. BRANCH NEWS

Report on the N.M.S. Sales Festival at Thanjavur on 2-10-1984

A special meeting of all the local branches of N.M.S. in Thanjavur Town was held at the Vestry, St. Peter's Church, Thanjavur on 23-6-1984. Rev. Tilak Samuel presided. It was then decided to celebrate the annual sales festival on 2-10-1984 at 2 p.m. in the premises of the T.E.L.C. Holy Comforter's Church, Thanjavur.

Thanjavur town was divided into 16 Zones and each Zone was entrusted to leading, enthusiastic Christian brothers and sisters in the area for the collection of donations and articles for the sales.

Rev. George Gnanamuthu our Local Patron and Thiru D. W. Herbert, Area Secretary gave all guidance and took active interest to collect the maximum amount from different sources. Mr. D. P. Jeyaraj and Stephen Ponniah, our Local Secretaries made tireless efforts to canvass stalls and to bring the articles for the sale from different parts of the town. Dr. Rev. Lawrence D. Litt. and Rev. E. Jacob B.A.B.T.B.D. extended all facilities for the arrangements for the successful conduct of the sales. Thiru Dharmaraj and Thiru M. C. Arthur of the T.E.L.C. made all preliminary arrangements perfectly well for the sales festival. Mrs. Annam Ponnusamy, though old, took the key role of receiving cash collections, incurring expenditure and rendering proper accounts.

All the Presbyters in the two C.S.I. Churches, T.E.L.C. Churches and two I.E.L.C. Churches made publicity in their respective churches about the sales festival and as a result all Christians in Thanjavur Town took their legitimate share of our Lord's blessings by participating in the sales festival.

A "Kalashepam" was rendered by Professor D. A. Thanapandian, B.A.B.T.I. (Lond) on 30-9-1984 and 1-10-1984 in the T.E.L.C. premises which inspired the Christians to support evangelical work and to take part in the sales festival. He did it free for the glory of our Lord. May our Lord shower His blessings on him.

The arrival of Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, our General Secretary on the day of sale made the picture of N.M.S. activities more attractive. The rains descended heavily on 1-10-1984 and it was apprehended that the rain might continue on 2-10-1984. But by God's grace the weather was fine and suitable for the festival. Praise God.

The special service for the sales festival commenced at 2 p.m. on 2-10-1984. Dr. Rev. Lawrence, presided. Rev. J. M. Jayasingh General Secretary and Rev. E. Jacob gave special appropriate messages. Rev. Charles Samuel read the Bible passage. Rev. Devasahayam prayed and Rev. Tilak Samuel close the meeting by pronouncing Benediction. Dr. Rev. Lawrence made the first purchase and commenced the sales.

Mr. Chelladurai was receiving all articles for sales from 8 a.m. on 2-10-1984 and properly distributed them to the several stalls. St. Peter's H.S.School, Women's Fellowship, C.S.I. Peter's Church, Congregation of I.E.L.C. and I.W.C.A. made consolidated efforts to put up enlarged special stalls and helped to swell the income from the stalls. Mrs. & Mr. Herbert enriched the stalls by selling cakes prepared by them. Mr. Peter, Assistant, St. Peters H.S. School, made splendid, elaborate and descriptive announcements over the mike about all articles placed for sales; which enabled those assembled to have a clear idea of the articles available for sales. The sales were closed by 6 p m. with prayer by Rev. George Gnanamuthu.

The total amount realised so far is Rs. 7,219/- May God our Lord bless those who contributed it and who worked for it. Praise God.

SOLOMON RAJAYYA
Organising Secretary
Thanjavur.

N. M. S. NEWS

Deputation :

Rev. Ravi Ratan Vyas and Mr. Stanly Mohan were invited for deputation work in the South. They spoke about their work in the following places.

Ranipet, Madurai, Nazareth, Megnanapuram, Tirunelveli, Nagercoil, Dindigul, Munnar and Shoranur. They have spoken, in colleges, high schools and Churches. Their visit has helped the supporters and praying partners to have a better knowledge about the N.M.S. work.

The deputation in Tamilnad was organised by S. Jeyapaul David our Organising Secretary.

81st BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The very Rev. P. J. Thomas of the Mar Thoma Church entered into his 81st birthday on 16th October 1984. He was the General Secretary of the N.M.S. from 1962-65. He went to Ankola as the missionary of the N.M.S. of India in 1940.

The celebrations were organised by the Mar Thoma Church. Different people spoke about his valuable services at various places. I was invited by the Mar Thoma Church Council Secretary to represent the N.M.S. and to speak about his valuable services rendered to the development of the N.M.S.

The meeting was presided over by the Suffargan Metropolitan The Rt. Rev. Chrisostom. The Rt. Rev. Zacharias Mar Theophilus, our Vice President, The Rt. Rev. M. M. John, The Rt. Rev. T. S. Joseph (Retired Bishops of the C. S. I.) and a few other church representatives were present. The entire family members particularly the children of the Rev. P. J. Thomas took part in the programme.

J. M. JAYASINGH

OBITUARY

1. Mr. D. K. Dhas of Zionpuram, K. K. District went to be with the Lord on 11—10—1984, suddenly. After his retirement from the Tea Estates in Nilgiris, he settled down at Kottaram. He was very much interested in the church and missionary activities. He has left behind his wife and children and grandchildren.

2. Mr. Justin Jesudason. I.A.S. Trivandrum went to be with the Lord during the early part of October 1984 after a brief illness. He had held posts in the Government, both in the State and in the Food Corporation of India. He had used his high position to serve the Lord Jesus in different capacities. He was very mueh involved in church activities and in the N.M.S. He was a participant in the R. C. S. F. Camps. He has left behind his wife children and grand children.

3. Mr.D.Thambidurai aged 80 years of the Seethamma colony, Madras-18 entered into eternal rest after a brief illness patiently borne. He has left behind his wife, Children and grand children.

4. Mr. Dan Joseph, an ardent supporter of the N.M.S. and who held several posts in the Madras Diocese, and C.L.S. after his retirement from the Directorate of School Education was the Correspondent of St. George's School Chetpet. He entered into eternal rest on the 31st October 1984. The message given by the Bishop in Madras at his funeral service bears ample testimony to his capacities in various fields where he had worked.

5. Mrs. I. Kuriyan, Tiruvella entered into eternal rest on September 27th 1984, while in Bombay, after a heart attack. She worked with Dr. Mrs. Thambiah, for N.M.S. while she was in Madras. Her life was totally changed for God during 1961. She writes, until 1961 I was only a nominal Christian' Later she experienced the power of God and was a witness for Him. She leaves behind her children and grand-childrrn.

6. Miss Betty Sukumar, grand daughter of Rev. K. G. S. Dorairaj passed away after a prolonged illness on 25—8—1984.

May the eternal God grant comfort and consolation to the members of the bereaved families. We praise God for the lives of those friends who went into eternal rest and peace.

7. Home Call of Bishop C. B. Rao, Bishop of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Madhya Pradesh.

Mr. Chandra Basu Rao a Maharastrian, after completing his theological studies in U.S.A. returned to India and married Dr. Mrs. Ramabai Gopal from T.E.L. Church who was serving as medical missionary of the Lutheran N.M.S. (Rewa Mission) at Shehdol, M.P. The common feature that brought them together was evangelistic zeal, winning souls for Christ. They celebrated the Silver Jubilee of their wedding on 29th July 1984.

Rev. C. B. Rao was consecrated as Bishop of E.L.C. in M.P. in December 1983 and his Home Call came on September 25th, 1984.

Bishop & Dr. Mrs. Rao have two children, John Rao & Ida Rao.

Dr. Mrs. Rao and the two children need our prayers in the hour of their bereavement for their future guidance, by our Lord.

We thank God for the life and services of this Evangelistic Bishop, who was in the N.M.S. ministry for several years.

WE ARE WORLD CHRISTIANS

We are World Christians. We put God's love for all people first. No race is superior to another, no government is more loved than another, no country is dearer than another. We don't put our nation's economy before God's economy. He tells us to seek first His Kingdom. He will then meet our needs.

We are driven to action daily with the knowledge that three billion people do not know our Saviour. Our passion in life, our unquenchable desire is to take God's love to them.

No task is too small for us. All that limits us is our unwillingness to believe that God can enable us to do it.

We are sold out to Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord. Nothing less. We understand following Him means absolute death to ourselves. It costs everything to be His disciple.

Don't give us blessings give us grace to be unquestionably obedient to Your every command and desire.

Don't give us status—give us a place to serve.

Don't give us things for our use—use us.

Don't give us a mansion to live in—give us a springboard to take Christ's love to the whole world.

Don't give us good jobs—put us to work.

Don't give us comfort—command us.

Don't give us pleasure—give us perspective.

Don't give us satisfaction—teach us sacrifice.

Don't give us entertainment—enable us.

Don't give us good salaries—give us strength to do Your will.

Our great joy in life is in pleasing our Lord—and there is no other joy comparable.

We're tired of playing religion, tired of seminaries and Bible schools that pump out thinkers who have no action, tired of a church life that consists of a few regular functions and sermons that sound good—as if they were being rated as speeches—but have no consequential value except complacency.

Life is not some 70-year stretch we endure until Christ returns or takes us home, nor is it a time to seek personal fulfillment.

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We don't seek self-actualization—rather, we pursue the actualization of God's love in all hearts.

We don't seek our personal rights—we seek to see all people set free.

We make no plans—we take orders.

We have no complaints—except our thankless hearts.

We have no excuses—they limit God.

We don't ask for reasons—we ask for responsibility.

We don't give ten percent of our income to God we give it all.

We don't work for Him from 8-5—we are His 24 hours of each day.

We are not stoics—we hurt and cry when loved ones leave us.

But we hurt all the more for people who pass into eternity without making Jesus Christ their Lord.

We are not "drop outs" because we don't hold "respectable, secure" jobs—we're "sold outs".

We are not cynics. Although there are unanswered questions, we know Christ has all the answers.

We are not bitter. Although we have been hurt, Christ is our healer.

We are not disillusioned. Although we sin constantly, Christ forgives us and makes us strong in our weakness.

We don't spend endless hours squabling over sideline issues such as premid—or post-tribulation or charismatic gifts.

We don't take pride in acquiring things—no, hoarding shames us.

We say it's senseless to talk of availability or willingness.

We would rather obey and do the job, not talk about it

Courtesy : World Christian Magazine, (Sept./Oct. 1982)
Sent by David Lim.

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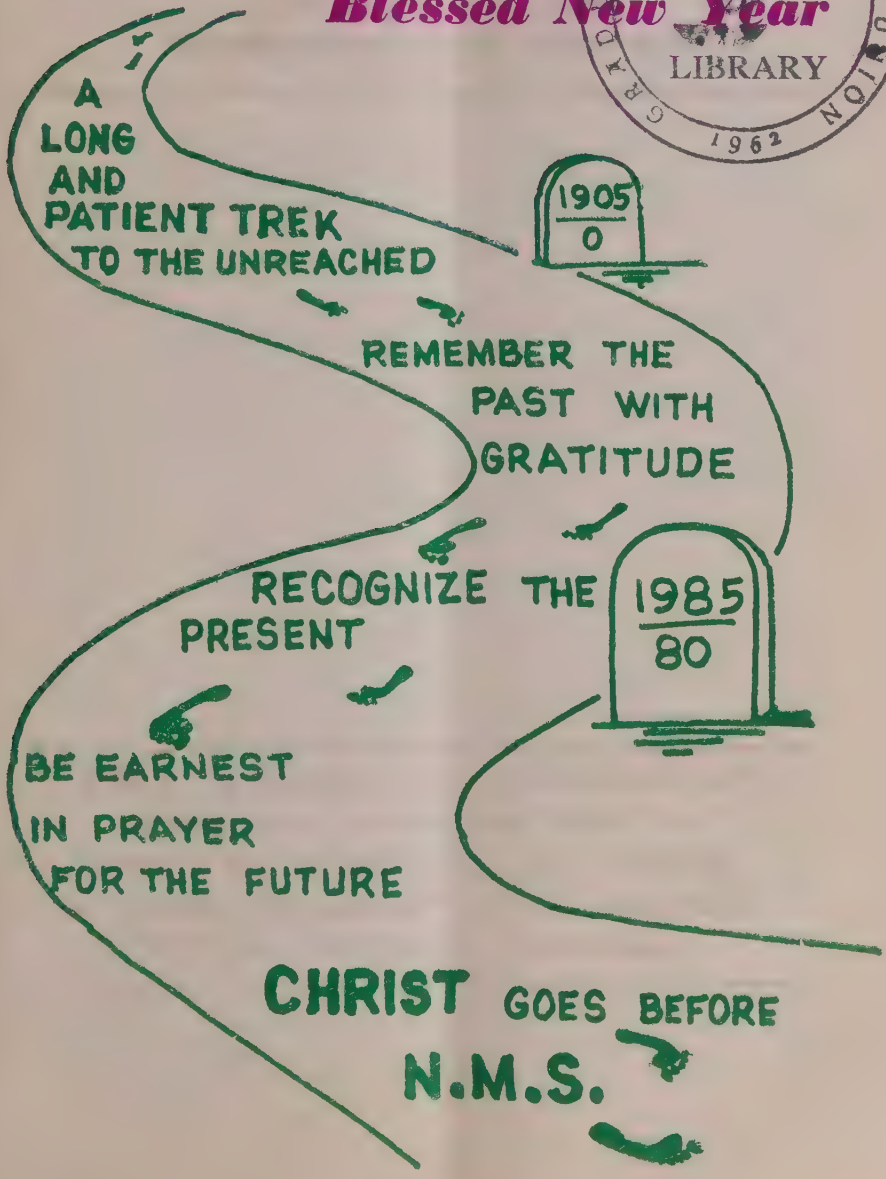

Vol. 78 JANUARY 1985 No. 11

For all correspondence contact the
General Secretary and send all the contributions to
Hon. Treasurer, N.M.S.,
206, Peters Road, Madras-600 014.

We receive back quite a number of N.M.I. and birth day greeting cards stating addressee left, or addressee not known. Therefore you are requested to inform us immediately for address correction.

A NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Isa. 6:1-8

Prophet Isaiah, young burdened about the nation, and its people's low estates enters into the temple of God. The spiritual life of the people was demoralized. God chosen generation have forgotten their redeemer who brought them out of Egypt by His might and power. They love to live under the sinful ways of the world.

Immorality, deceitfulness, cheating one another, worshipping idols, offering sacrifices to the sun and moon and to all the imaginary gods were common which their forefathers inherited by their living in Egypt. They loved it and liked to live as non-Israelites.

They wanted a King for them as others which the Eternal King and Lord permitted them to have their chosen kings led them astray. But King UZZIAH brought religious revival in the country, but his pride made him to transgress against the Lord. 2 Chronicles 26:16. (Read the entire Chapter)

The punishment of God came upon him and he became a leper. Let there be no place for pride in our lives.

VISION OF ETERNAL KING

"This king Uzziah died and in the same year Isaiah went into the temple where he had the vision of the eternal King, who lives for ever and ever. Psalmist in His Psalm always sees God as high and above everything. He sees him as the sovereign ruler. Even in the midst of his troubles he sees Him. Sitting on the throne above and over ruling the minds of the human beings Isaiah saw him sitting on the throne as a ruler.

"It is also very clear that the word of God teaches us about the Holiness of God. He is holy. The angels sang. Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts. The prophet was able to see God in His Holiness.

"The Holy God's presence was seen by the prophet right in the temple. He would have been there in the temple to worship God repeatedly but, this time it was an unusual decision for him to realise God's presence in a special way.

Vision of himself and others

God's Greatness as Ruler realization of His Holiness and presence made the young, burdened prophet to see himself, his ugliness his unholiness, and his unworthiness. A man who has seen the vision of God cannot be puffed up with pride, but rather he has to see himself in humility.

His vision did not limit himself to see his condition but to see the condition of his people in and around. I and my people, I live among such people and I am also contaminated was the cry of Isaiah. He specifically points out "I am a man of unclean lips". How many times he would have talked about his friend and King Uzziah instead of talking about God. Are we not a prey to this? How often we praise about leaders, preachers, organisations and their heads? We try to run the organisations under the names of our leaders. There is nothing wrong in recognising them but glory and praise belong to God the Eternal King. Christ should be glorified. He will never allow a man to touch His glory.

I have heard people saying. "You tell them to invite me. You invite me, I can preach, I can conduct Bible study and so on....." Without Him we are nothing. May the Lord cleanse us from such sin. All glory, Majesty, dominion and power belong to the Holy God.

Our Vision enlarged

Quite often our vision is limited to the Church Campus but what about the people who die without Christ. Having cleansed by the fire. God wanted Isaiah to involve himself in the work. He told him Look! Whom shall we send? You are a pardoned sinner and you have the concern and burden for these people. But I am more burdened about your people and the Nations. It is not only your concern but it is our concern.

Here an important point could be seen. God taking Isaiah as a partner in the vision and concern. God and man in joint operation for God.

May the Lord help us to have the same vision today in reaching the unreached.

"PEOPLE PERISH.....WHERE THERE IS NO VISION"

J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Illness in the family :

Much against my plans, I had to rush to Parasala on the night of 23rd November 1984 where my father was admitted in the hospital. His condition was very serious but the Lord undertook everything for us, and he is better. Praise God. My brother who was looking after him was also laid up and I had to look after two patients. Meanwhile my wife and our son Timothy fell ill and were admitted in a hospital in Trivandrum. The Lord strengthened me to face these trials. Kindly continue to pray for my father and brother and our son.

New recruits:

We have appointed 3 more evangelists to work in the Society. They are Mr. P. Moses for North India (time being at Jamnamarathur) and Mr. & Mrs. Robert John for Veerapanoor and Mr. & Mrs. Manickya Samuel to Kakinada to work among the fishermen.

Lok Sabha Elections :

Another Lok Sabha Election has taken place in our Country. Many people are contesting to get hold of the power at the Centre. Some have joined in groups. Selfish motives have crept in the minds of the political leaders. The Israelites wanted a king like others which was against the wish of Jehovah who was their King and God. But God gave them a King as per their wish but the consquences were terrible. I write this because some communal parties were organized and they fight to get the power. If we Christians form political parties, we will be also interested in power rather than serving the millions in this land of ours. We are called to serve and not to be masters. Our concern is to reach the unreached people of our country with the Gospel of Christ and serve them in their needs.

N.M.S. in the eighties:

79 years have gone behind since the Society was formed. There are merits and demerits, failures and victories, ups and downs. As we look back into the past, we need to realize that this Society was formed by the inspiration of the Holy spirit.

To revive the Church for the Gospel work

To reach the unreached in our country and in the neighbourhoods.

When the N.M.S. was formed there was the I.M.S. alone, of the Indian nature, but today we have a number of missionary organisations, yet the need is great.

Need of the hour : As the N.M.S. steps into the eightieth year it needs to be strengthened. At the recent Standing Committee meeting of the Society, it was emphasized that more prayer Cells should be formed. I would urge each one of you who are interested in the work of N.M.S. to form a small prayer cell, in your church, or in your home with like minded friends. This will enable the N.M.S. to send more missionaries and to form churches in the places where we are working. It has to be noted that we work in co-operation with the churches in each area.

Your earnest prayers are needed to find out men and women and send them into the mission fields.

Expectation : As the founders have clearly stated.

"Expect great things from God and Attempt great things for God"

May the Lord of missions enable us to achieve great things for God.

We wish you all a Happy and fruitful NEW YEAR.

Let God's name be honoured.

With prayers and best wishes.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

Pray for all fields in Tamilnadu—the community restrictions in the villages should be changed so that it may not be a hindrance to the converts and other earnest seekers.

OFFICE NEWS

Pray for Mrs. & Mr. Jacob, office attender who had a still born baby. Mrs. Jacob had to undergo a major operation. She needs God's healing touch.

General Secretary Rev. J. M. Jayasingh's father and brother were seriously ill. They are better now. Praise God. His father is still in bed in Parasuvaikkal. Mrs. Jayasingh and their son Timothy also fell ill. Though Mrs. Jayasingh is better, Timothy has not been completely cured. He needs your prayers.

FIELD NEWS

KASHMIR — Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih.

Praise God for the villagers who were contacted with the Gospel. Pray for the villagers, who are interested and also pray for the converts for their spiritual growth.

Malligachi : West Bengal — Mr. N. C. Ghosh.

Praise God for the children attending school, and contacts established through them. Pray for the seekers who have received tracts and gospel material. Specially pray for the protection of Mr. N. C. Ghosh.

Kota-Rajasthan — Mr. Barun Kumar Saumi

The Missionary at Kota has reported that he is visiting villages around Kota very frequently and that two Hindu brothers who have read the Gospel and are interested in coming to the feet of Jesus are facing innumerable problems from their families and Society. He has requested us to pray that they may not withdraw their decision to accept Christ. Presbyter E. C. Antony of Kota C.N.I. Church helps and guides our evangelist inspite of his heavy schedule. Our thanks are due to Rev. E. C. Antony for guiding our worker in his missionary work.

Pentacottah—Puri — Rev. & Mrs. Paul Sanjeevi, Mrs. Lakshmi, Mr. A. V. Ramana and Mrs. Mariamma Kotteswara Rao Nolayasahi : Mr. Daud Saugar.

Praise God for people who witness Christ as Lord and Saviour. Pray for non-Christians who are attending cottage prayer meetings and also for re-opening of the reading room at Puri, which will help us to introduce Christ to the hungry souls.

Basai-M. P. Rev. R.R. Vyas, Mr. Yovab Singh and Mr. Stanley Mohan.

Praise God for Mr. Ramprasad who opposed Christians and who has come to realise Christ and accepted Him along with his son who was seriously ill and cured by the prayers offered by our Evangelists. Pray that he would grow in the Lord; also for the work among Mathathila Dam workers.

Hebri — Karnataka : Mr. Godfrey Soans

Praise God for the contacts made in the following villages, Mandady Jadhu, Shanthroli and Santhekatte. Please pray for the interested persons Gopal, Obayya Hegde, Naryanan and Subbana Shetty. Pray for Kala Shetty's son, he is hospitalized and needs your unceasing prayers.

Kulathupuzha — Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

Praise God for the cottage prayer meetings at R.P.L. Colony, Karni settlements and Kachrippa village. Pray for the interested families who are eager to know more about Christ.

Praise God for the ministry among the school children-Pray for Govindaraj and group of 10 others who are responding and for their faith in Christ.

Tamil nad; JAWADHI HILLS :

Athipet — Mr. & Mrs. James Meyyan

Pray for Mohan as he is facing severe opposition from his family for having positive attitude towards christianity. Please also pray for the evangelist's children and their education.

Jamnamarathur — Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss, Mr. Moses, Palani & Alamelu :

Praise God for the outreach work done in 9 villages, girls hostel and the building work. Pray for hostel girls Parimala and Shanthi who are responsive to the gospel and pray that other girls may also realize Christ in a similar way.

Praise God for Kasi, Ramaswamy and their positive attitude; also remember Surendra Perumal who has got a Bible.

Gundalathur — Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel : Let us thank God for enabling them to carry on the evangelistic, medical and school work. Praise God for the school and medical work and the seekers through these channels.

Pray for Vallachiammal, who is sick that she may be healed by our Lord.

Veerapanoor — Mr. & Mrs. Robert John :

Praise God for having provided the above missionary family, pray for God's guidance in their new environment and task set before them in order that they may work with perseverance till the end. They have joined duty in the centre on 1-12-1984.

Kalyanamanthai — Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Praise God for the unquenching spirit of prayer in the life of the evangelist and among the few night school students.

Pray for villagers contacted and the 9 students who are ready to accept Christ openly by accepting the sacrament of baptism; also the ministry among the students in forest department school. Praise & Pray God for the converts who are growing in their Christian faith.

Nadanoor — Mr. Raju and Mr. Victor Gnanarajan :

Praise God for the co-ordinated evangelistic, educational and medical work and for whom gospel is introduced through these sources, the acquaintance through school and medical work has been useful to muster greater number to know God. Praise & thank God for the people who are to be baptized in this centre. Pray for medical work, through the women medical workers, and also for the monthly visit of members of St. John's Church, Vellore its congregation with a team of Doctors who render medical aid to these hill people.

Kattiyankudisai — Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam.

Let us Praise God with the evangelist for the response prevailing in the village. Pray for Doraiswamy of Veerapat and Raju, a convert who is going back to his old faith as this attitude is a hindrance to the new converts and also to others. Praise God for healing Muthammal from her ailments.

Thongumalai — Mr. & Mrs. Anandachandrasekar.

Pray for the outreach work done in and around Thongumalai. Praise God for the families of Naryanan Kuppuswamy and Sampath a teenager who are very responsive to the gospel. Pray for their steadfast growth in the Christian faith, and also for the school children. A small problem has come up about the boundary in Thongumalai. Pray that it may be settled amicably.

Allery — Mr. & Mrs. Charles.

Praise God for He continues to guide the work in this hilly land. Pray for Sorcerer Chinnapayan for he has been given the gospel, also for Vellian and other converts for their spiritual growth. Praise and pray to God for the indirect opposition in the village and also for the evangelist and family and their children's health, which is often affected.

Kandali—Dn. & Mrs. Thiraviam.

Praise God for the tracts distributed, gospel preached in 15 villages and also for the deliverance got from the sickness and other problems through fasting and prayer.

Pray for Sigamani of Kurumbatt, as he is sick for quite a long period. For unity among local Christians and for their Christian witness. Pray for the R.S.S. people who are opposing the work.

Pray for God's guidance for the proposed evening meetings beginning from January 1985.

Veeranamalai — Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan:

Praise God for having saved the evangelist from an accident. Now he has recovered and is back in the field. Pray that God may continue to strengthen him and use him mightily.

Praise God that he has enabled the evangelist to visit 9 villages and for the response among the lambadies also for God's Wisdom to be showered in his task of learning Telugu and Tribal languages.

ECHOES FROM THE FIELD

IT WAS A CHALLENGE

Biting cold, Freezy winds, the time showing 8-55 A. M. on 2—12—1984 at Kattyankudisai field Tamilnadu.

A group of young and old rushed into the worship centre.

An young lad advanced in front of the worship room with a bag of harvested produce.

After the service, the missionary screams "2 rupees 3 rupees, 5 rupees" and it is sold and the amount credited to the church income.

Narrating the whole process, the missionary explained that immediately after harvest a sizeable quantity of produce is set apart for thank offering and it is placed in the church the following Sunday as a token of a gratitude.

These infant believers who have been confronting Him for the past 5 years are so enthusiastic to offer a portion of their harvest to the Maker.

It should be noted that it was an act filled with thanks regardless of the quality and quantity offered.

Is this not a challenge to us, traditional Christians ? We have to think about our stand.

Christmas and New Year have just passed making unfor gettable impressions in our hearts by the mementos gifts and cards exchanged, with all our near and dear.

But how far do we respond to His Ministry ? The Missionaries need certain field implements for efficiency in their work. If you are led, kindly help us in accquiring them.

Tape Recorders	2
Megaphones (Walkie Talkie)	6
Cycles	2
Camera	1

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. XXV

Resolution adopted by the Zenana Bible and Medical Mission.

"The Conference of the Zenana Bible and Medical Mission sympathises warmly with the aims and policy of the National Missionary Society of India, and we pray that God may guide and

abundantly bless all its efforts. As workers among the girls of this country we rejoice that this Society is making provision for the inclusion of women's work under the direction of Indian ladies themselves, to organise and carry on work among their Indian sisters".

Resolution adopted by the Kandy C. M. S. Missionary Conference.

"Mr. A. G. Fraser having brought to the notice of the Conference the formation of the National Missionary Society of India (and Ceylon) and explained its nature, the Conference, knowing how the Church Missionary Society has long prayed, and believing that God would stir up the desire of the peoples of India and Ceylon for the evangelization of their own countrymen, and make them to feel their glorious responsibilty, welcome with great gladness the formation of this Society, and look forward with glad expectation to its future share in the foundations of the Kingdom of God."

An Appeal

The National Missionary Society is now organised. We stand between a hundred millions of our fellow-country-men without Christ, and the Christian Community which could be aroused to give them the gospel. We are men called to witness for Christ, chosen out of many as a kind of firstfruits, that we might give the gospel to our fellow countrymen. Shall we fulfil our trust or fail God in this hour of our country's need and the Church's opportunity? God expects a great service of us. Our Lord is calling us has trusted us that we would prove faithful, that we would win India for Him.

No man need wait for a further call. "The call of God is not so often a personal call as the call of an opportunity."

And what opportunity could be greater? To unite as members of the one Body of Christ, to join hands as Christians from every province in this great empire in one mighty and unceasing effort to win our land for Chsist—this is the opportunity to which God is calling us. After two hundred years of Protestant Missionary efforts from foreign lands, are we not yet ready to take up our own burden, and live and die for our own country? If we are not yet ready now, when shall we be? We have waited too long already we have been weakend from inactivity; we shall grow strong only by effort. The hour of India's opportunity has struck. We shall not fail our God in the day of His power.

India is awakening, God is speaking to our own age and to our own land in the mighty reviving work of His Spirit. In Wales

we have seen a nation well high reborn in a day. In Assam we have heard of His mighty power. In parts of Northern, Western and Southern India the revival has already begun. A revival of whom—and for what? The Spirit of Pentecost is arousing the Church to-day, not for ecstatic emotions or pleasant feelings as an end in themselves, but in order to service for the unsaved. We have heard of visions and voices in these days of revival, and we rejoice in every true vision; but let us not forget this vision of the day in men of Macedonia calling us to help them—a hundred millions of our fellow-men, many of our own race and language, waiting helpless before our very eyes. Nor let us fail to hear the voice of mute appeal that rises from this dumb multitude without God,—the silent cry of "the unsatisfied heart of India." Ah, brothers, "dull would he be of soul" and dead who could resist their plea and turn away with stony heart-for more worldly pleasure, or selfish ease or sordid gain.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said,
"This is my own, my native land?"

Yes, it is our own! Let us say it a thousand times until we grasp the thought. This land is ours! Not for vain boasting, not in idle sentiment, not to exclude others, but in the solemn obligation alike of ownership and of opportunity, of sacrifice and responsibility. It is ours! to win or lose; to save or to neglect.

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

Mr. Ranjit Kumar, Bihar & U.P.

N.M.S. Sunday was observed in Lucknow and a retiring offering was taken.

Apart from the N.M.S. Sunday at Lucknow, a convention was Organised by him in which the Rev. R. R. Vyas brought out challenging messages.

Mr. Ranjit Kumar had visited Muzzafarpur, Gorakhpur, Meerut, Happur, Kanpur and Bahaieh.

In some of these places he has conducted revival meetings.

Mr. Dawid Suresh, North Tamil Area.

The Annual Sale for N.M.S. was conduced at 3 p.m. on 18—11—1984 at the C. S. I. Immanuel Church Parish Hall in Coimbatore. The Opening Service was conducted by the Rev. Gunabalan of the Immanuel Church. The Rev. Franklin, Rev. B. Jerome, C. S. I. presbyters and Rev. S. O. Rajkumar,

Rev. I. Immanuel, Presbyter of the Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church took part in the Service.

Dr. Mrs. Sarojini Thomas spoke indicating her experiences in the light of her personal commitment to her profession and to the missionary work. Mr. C. T. Jeyachandran emphasized the need of individual participation in the ongoing work of the N.M.S.

Soon after the Service the sale was declared open by Mr. Indran Jeyachandran.

The Christians in Coimbatore responded to the invitation and participated in the programme.

The following churches and institutions had their stalls at the sale.

All Soul's Church
Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church
Christ Church, Gandhipuram
C. S. I. Church Ramanathapuram
Vocational Training Centre
C. S. I. Girls Hostel

Messrs. Mathi, C. V. Subramaniam and Sridhar had put up a stall of various articles.

Some churches through their women fellowship have given their contributions.

I am personally thankful to the Persbyters, Church Committees for allowing us to have the sale at the parish Hall.

The local N.M.S. Youth group has helped in all the Sale arrangements—Mr. Samuel Gnanakadatcham, Secretary and Mr. Bobby Samson, Hon. Treasurer whose guidances and help are very much appreciated.

I had the privilege of camping in Coimbatore to contact the friends. My thanks are due to every one who helped.

Mr. J. P. Ashwal Bombay & Karnataka

Mr. J. P. Ashwal had been to Hebri, which is our mission Centre, along with Mr. Wilson. He has given the following suggestions to our evangelist Mr. Godfrey Soans.

1. to conduct open Bible class wherever the children are.
2. to teach the poor illiterate children.
3. to do the follow up work among the groups or individuals who are interested in Gospel.
4. to carry out the distribution of tracts, visiting villages.

Mr. Godfrey Soans works alone and he needs a companion to work in that area.

Mr. J. P. Ashwal continues his untiring efforts to form New branches and revive the old ones.

BRANCH NEWS

Tiruvella :

At the invitation of Mr. K. Chandy, Organising Secretary for Kerala, the Rev. George Gnanamuthu of Tanjore went to Tiruvella. Mr. K. Chandy had arranged 3 days meetings at the Annavattam Mar Thoma Church. There were 3 night meetings which were useful.

He also had to speak at the meeting of the Marthoma Evangelistic Association of the Nınanan Maramon Diocese, St. Thomas Mar Thoma Church at Tiruvella, C.S.I. Church, Tiruvella and Nicholson, Mar Thoma residential School.

Praise God for these meetings.

Mr. K. Chandy had been to Trivandrum, Amarawila and to other places to organise the branches—Mr. K. M. Mathew and Mr. Joy Thekkumpuram have joined him to certain places.

OBITUARY

Miss Enoch—Madras

Miss Enoch, Sister of Professor Enoch and cousin sister of Dr. Mrs. Thambiah entered into eternal rest on the morning of 18th December 1984. Miss Enoch joining hands with Dr. Mrs. Thambiah raised funds for the work the N.M.S. every year.

Miss Sharmila Mitra—Calcutta

Miss Sharmila Mitra (16 years) daughter of Mr. D. Mitra of Calcutta had her 'Home Call' on the 15th October 1984 at her home in Calcutta.

N.M.S. Friends are requested to pray for the bereaved members of the family. They need God's comfort and consolation. Mr. D. Mitra from Calcutta has specially requested the N.M.S. Friends to pray for his family.

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NORTH INDIA N.M.S. WORKERS CONFERENCE 1985

DATES : **28th TO 30th MARCH 1985**

VENUE : **GORAKHPUR, BIHAR.**

Kindly Pray For The Arrangements Needed
Funds And God's Guidance

HOPE is the ONLY GOOD THING
COMMON to all men Those who have
NOTHING else Possesses HOPE STILL
THALES.

N.M.S. RALLY COIMBATORE

WITH

FIELD FLASH BACKS

Date : **20th January, 1985**

Time : **4-30 p.m.**

Venue : **C.S.I. Hr. Sec. School, Coimbatore-1.**

PRAY PLAN PARTICIPATE

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Peter in Action Contd.

Act. 8 : 14 - 20

Background :

Acts 8:5 refers to Philp going over to Samaria to proclaim the Good News, of "THE JESUS CHRIST". He was a layman, an elder in the Church in Jerusalem. The Apostles were in Jerusalem, but Philip moved out to meet the Samaritans who were kept aside from the main stream of the Jewish Community. Jesus said "ye shall be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth" Acts. 1.8. The Samaritans accepted Jesus. Wonders and miracles were wrought.

Samaritans have already heard the word of God. When Jesus went to Samaria the women at the well came to know about Jesus and through her many others (John 4:39)

There was another occasion, when the Samaritans did not receive Jesus (Luke 9:52-53). But now the Samaritans received the word of God. The people may reject Him, but later they are the ones who will be in the Kingdom of God. It was reported from Basai in M.P. that a certain man opposed vehemently the preaching of the word, but after some time due to the illness of his son, he believed in Jesus Christ and accepted Him. It may seem to us as opposition but the word of the Lord put within them will start working and some day that seed will sprout out.

Apostles sending apostles vs. 14.

Realizing what was happening in Samaria, the apostles, who were in Jerusalem decided to send Peter and John to Samaria to see what was happening there. They were sent to strengthen the new believers in faith. It is not sufficient to bring people to Christ but follow up work is necessary.

Apostles praying for the converts vs 15.

Peter and John prayed for them 8-15. Praying with the Converts and praying for the converts is a must. Quite often people are brought to Christ and no attention has been given to nuiture them in Christian faith. It is said that they were not told about the Holy Spirit but only baptized in the name of Jesus. The new Converts in Samaria received the power of the Holy Spirit. To

live a victorious living and to be a witness of Jesus, we need to recognize the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus commanded His disciples to wait in Jerusalem to receive the power of the Holy Spirit. Every believer needs to have the indwelling Spirit of God. It is necessary to note that, they were baptized only in the name of Jesus. The command of Jesus was to baptize the people ".....in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" Math 28:19.

It is the privilege of every believer to be filled by Him and controlled by Him. The apostles particularly Peter as a Jew had the problem of accepting others. The spirit of God taught Peter, that the Samaritans who were baptized in the name of Jesus also can have this experience.

Efforts to purchase the spirit of God and consequences. vs. 18-24.

(1) Simon, the sorcerer (Vs. 9) also believed in Jesus and was with Philip (vs. 13). This Simon noticed the laying of hands by the apostles and the believers being filled with the spirit of God. He desired that he may also lay hands on the people to be filled with the power of God.

(2) He offered money to the disciples—Simon thought that he can purchase the power of God with money. There are believers who think that by pleasing the pastor, evangelist and Church leaders they can have spiritual gifts. The old man in Simon was very much alive, though he believed in Jesus. We should not forget, that even the devil believes in Jesus as the Son of God.

(3) Peter's warning Vs. 20-24, Simon was warned and he was told :

a) "Your money will perish with you because you thought that you can purchase the gift of God by your worldly possessions". What about our intentions. Today how much money we spend in getting elected to the church offices and committees. We are prepared to spend money to achieve power and positions.

b) Simon was told that his heart was not right with God and that it was wicked. A man can believe in Jesus and yet he can have a wicked heart, which cannot be easily understood. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" Jeremiah 17.9. Simon was told of the condition of his heart. What about mine and yours?

c) He was commanded to repent and pray to God. Repentance is necessary for forgiveness. Quite often, when we are warned, we harden our hearts, rather than repenting and asking forgiveness from God. How we repented from our sins of omission and commission and received the assurance of salvation. He was told of the consequences, if he did not repent. My dear fellow Christian believer, you and I are warned of the bitter consequences, if we do not repent for our sins.

d) Simon responds. He responded to the warning given and pleaded to pray for him. vs. 24. God expects us to plead for mercy. We need not wait for tomorrow, but today is the day of Salvation. It is said "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" John 1:9.

Continued in preaching Vs. 25.

Before they returned to Jerusalem they visited many other villages of Samaria and preached the gospel. The gospel need to be proclaimed in the villages. There are hungry souls and sorcerers who need to be cleansed of their sins. The apostles Peter and John went into the villages. Have you thought of going into the villages to reach the unreached with the gospel of Christ. Multitudes live in villages of our country. Who will care for them? They too need Christ the Saviour.

J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

1985

We are in 1985 and we look ahead with much hope and expectations. Let our expectations be from God.

Elections :

We have witnessed another Lok Sabha Election in which the Congress I, has come to power and formed the ministry under the leadership of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. Let us uphold the new Ministry and our Prime Minister in our Prayers.

Diocesan Council :

I had the privilege of attending the Madras and Vellore Diocesan Councils and I was given the privilege of sharing the concerns of the N.M.S. On behalf of the N.M.S. and myself I am thankful to the Bishops

the Rt. Rev. Sundar Clarke and the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah for giving me the opportunity.

Baptism :

The last day in the year 1984 was marked with the baptism service at Nadanoor in Jawadhi Hills. 14 adults and a child were baptised. More details are found elsewhere in this issue.

Another 3 :

Another 3 people have joined the work with the N.M.S. They will be at the Headquarters for a month and then sent to the field and to Tirupathur Ashram for another month, before they are sent to the mission centres. They are M/s. Dayanandan, Devanesan and Sampath James. They too need your prayers.

Family News :

In the January issue, I had stated about the illness in the family but on the early morning of 28th December 1984, my father had his Home Call. He was 79 and I praise God for his life and witness. I have penned down a few lines about him under the title "My father" which may help you. I know there were many people who prayed for his recovery.

Commissioning Service :

The Good Shepherd Church and the Risen Redeemers Church in Madras have commissioned Miss Vasantha Kumari David of Kagal and Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel of Jawadhi Hills and adopted them for their support. Thanks to the Presbyters and Pastorate Committees of the above Churches.

The North Indian N. M. S. Workers Conference :

Last year we planned to have it at Delhi, but we could not have it. After much thought and prayer, we have decided to have it at Gorakhpur at the end of March 1985. Please pray for the Conference and for the needed funds.

We are also planning for the Seekers Conference in Patna for the Converts at Biharshariff at the later part of March 1985. There are about 50 seekers and Converts. Kindly pray for the participants and needed funds for the same. This will cost about Rs. 4000/-. We have to meet their travel and food expenses.

May the eternal God continue to be with you all.

With prayers.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

BRANCH NEWS

Kerala: The Trivandrum Area Committee had its 74th Anniversary meeting and the sale on November 24th at the T. J. M. Hall in C.S.I. Compound, Trivandrum.

The Public meeting was presided over by its President Mr. George. The Chief guests were Rev. Dr. Jacob Varghese, Principal K.U.T.S. Trivandrum and his wife Mariam Varghese. Mr. K. George, Vice President welcomed the gathering and gave a brief account of its activities. Rev. Jacob Varghese emphasized the need for evangelising our country and urged its members to pray for the future work of the Society. Miss Vilasini White, the Secretary read the report. Mrs. Mariam Varghese declared open the sale.

The N.M.S. Evangelists from Kulathupuzha both Mr. Stephen Purushothaman and Mr. T. Pappachan were present and brought vegetables and spices for the sale.

MISS VILASINI WHITE
Secretary

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

Mr. Ranjit Kumar—U.P. and Bihar.

During the early part of December 1984 he had to work on the special Christmas issue of the Hindi N M.S. bulletin. He also had the privilege of speaking in different denominational churches in Lucknow. He has covered the Eastern U.P. where he was able to contact "Free Baptist Churches of North India" Thus far they are not very much acquainted with the work of the Society. Let us pray that these new contacts in U. P. may bring us more support.

NOTICE

Change of Telephone No. of the N.M.S. office.

Old	New
83477	87314

The New Number will come into effect from 16—2—1985.

Members are kindly requested to note the new number.

FIELD NEWS

Hebri — Karnataka : Mr. Godfrey Soans

He has visited people in their houses and talked about the love of Jesus. He has also distributed tracts. He conducts a Bible class every week to the children at Sitanadi. A special Christmas programme was conducted for the children on 26th December 1984. Pray that the people contacted may find Christ in their lives.

Kulathupuzha — Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

Balan Kani son of Mr. Gangadaran Kani is learning to sing Christian songs and let us praise God for the new developments in this family. They are all showing much interest in the gospel. He is also reading the New Testament. There are people who have received tracts and gospel portions. Pray that they may find Christ as they read God's word.

SIKKIM — Singtom — Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham
Kamdong — Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal
Rhenock — Mr. & Mrs. Bir Singh Ademnu Lepcha.

Mr. Bir Singh and his family have joined the work from 1st December 1984. There is much progress in the work in Sikkim. The evangelists have visited villages and hospitals where they have shared the love of Jesus with the people.

Mr. V. T. Abraham writes that another couple is waiting for baptism. Your prayers are requested for the work in Sikkim. This is a cold season and God may help them to bear cold and strive to reach the people with the gospel.

PURI : Rev. and Mrs. Paul Sanjeevi,
Mr. & Mrs. Daud Saguar,
Mrs. Mariamma Kotteswara Rao,
Mr. R. V. Ramana and Mrs R. V. Lakshmi.

Rev. Sanjeevi reports that a 9 year old girl of Mr. Zachariah expired. Mr. & Mrs. Zachariah need our prayers. Another believer Kanakamma slept in Christ in December 1984. Mr. Nookaraj is sick and he needs your prayers.

Every year during the Christmas time, a few converts will be baptised but this time they did not have the baptism service, because of various reasons.

Poor people were presented with clothes from the congregation. Prizes were distributed to the Sunday School children and to the children in the school.

The Rt. Rev. D. K. Mahanty was present for the New Year Service and conducted the service. The following members of the congregation gave the following items and donations.

Mr. Chinnappa Rao donated a Church Bell and Mr. Avarsathy Raj and Mr. Samuel donated Ceiling Fans for the Church. A few others have promised a table fan, Petromax light and two tube lights.

The work in Puri requires a Megaphone for open air preaching. Rev. Sanjeevi requests you to pray for the enquirers.

Mr. Daud Saguar who works in Nolayasahi area has intimated that 4 people are willing to accept Christ. He is conducting classes for the children in the mornings and in the evenings he visits people in their houses. A convert is put in difficulty by his father-in-law because of his Christian Faith. Please pray for this convert.

Basai-M. P. Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Stanley Mohan and Mr. Yovab Singh.

As we are aware, the whole of North India is under the grip of cold wave and chill weather. Our evangelists at Basai have reported that they are suffering in this cold season. Please uphold them in your prayers.

Bodora, Barora, Herapur, Luckenpur and Babina villages were visited. In these villages tracts and gospel packets were distributed. Pray that people may read and know Christ through the distributed literature.

Pray for Ramkumar driver, Tamil Friends, Srikantan and Ganeshan, Ganesh Ram and for the conduct of regular evening meetings at Basai and for a student who received a Bible.

Praise God for the following who have accepted Christ : Thunan Singh, Muna Singh and Muma of Janakphur and for their spiritual growth.

Kattiyankudisai — Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam.

Christmas programme went off well, reports the evangelist. Praise God for Chinnaswamy of Veerapatti village, since he continues to grow in faith. He faces stiff opposition from his kith and kin. Kindly pray that he may be sustained and also bring members of his family to the Christian fold.

M/s Kuppuswamy, Vellian, Velliandi, Doraiswamy and Chinnaswamy were baptized at Nadanoor on 31-12-1984. Let us pray for the above converts, specially for Kuppuswamy and Velliandi who have opposition from their people and also for the 14 individuals who have received the New Testaments.

Thongumalai — Mr. & Mrs. Ananda Chandrasekaran

Let us thank God together with the Evangelist for the protection and care which He has given during the past year.

Pray for the efforts that are taken for conducting day school and night adult education programmes and the people of his area may be benefited and these programme may lead them to know the living God in due course.

Pray for the conversion of the village leaders in this area. It is planned to bring about 10 families to the feet of Christ. Pray that this may be realised with God's Grace. Mr. Chandran has requested you to pray for God's guidance for this New Year.

Veerapanoor — Mr. & Mrs. Robert John.

Praise God for enabling Mr. & Mrs. Robert John to start their work at Veerapanoor which is a new place for them. God has been gracious to them in their work. He writes that by prayers Rani was relieved from epilepsy and similarly many sick people were also healed and he requests you to remember them in your prayers.

Pray for Alagesan and Ravi, who are responsive, but are facing certain restrictions due to family problems. Pray for the Sunday and Wednesday meetings held at Shanmugham's and Chinnapillai's houses respectively. Pray for Govindan and Swaminathan who at times create unpleasant situation in the work.

Nadanoor — Mr. G. A. Raju and Mr. Gnanaraj.

Let us praise God the Almighty for enabling us to bring people from Nadanoor and Kattiankudisai to profess their faith in Christ through baptism. Prayers are requested for the converts in order that they may steadfastly grow in the Lord. Thank God for the Vellore, St John's Church's participation and the efforts taken by them for the successful conduct of baptism service at Nadanoor.

Kalyanamanthai — Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Mr. Jesudoss reports that he has visited 17 villages: Praise God for His strength and courage which enabled him to do the work.

Prayers were answered and a woman was relieved from the demon possession and it has paved the way for her son to accept Jesus Christ.

Christmas was celebrated. People from the entire area attended it and it was a great blessing. New Year service was conducted along with the all night prayer.

More than 10 boys have accepted Christ and are very enthusiastic in their faith. Please do continue to uphold these youths in your prayers.

Kandali—Karagapatti — Dn. & Mrs. Thiraviam.

Concentrated efforts are being taken in 10 villages. In these areas tracts, Gospel packets and New Testaments have been distributed.

Sick people, and demon possessed were prayed for and were delivered from their bindings and this has helped many more to seek earnestly the living God. The all night prayer meetings have helped the local Christians to strengthen themselves in their spiritual life. Pray for 2 individuals of Kasinaicken-Patti village, who are ready to take baptism and an individual at Kottur village has offered to donate a piece of land for the construction of a church building. If this materialised it will be another base for the non-christians to know more about Christ.

Night school helps very much for this work. Please pray for Kuppu and Pattammal who are responding at various levels, so that they may accept Christ whole heartedly.

Gundalathur — Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel.

Evangelistic work, day and night schools and Medical work are continued to be carried.

Pray for Subramani who has received the New Testament and also thank God for another individual who has been demon possessed and was relieved by the continuous prayers.

Christmas programme was conducted in all its fervour. Local people and also from adjoining villages attended the service, It was a service of great blessing writes the Evangelist. Praise God for all those who were physically healed by the treatment rendered and for others who are in the treatment. Pray that God may touch and heal their hearts also.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. XXVI

Ah, when shall He see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied, in India? His heart bends down in tender pitying love over each aching heart, each sinful soul, each darkened life in this needy land. And seeing the multitudes He looks to us—to you and me. To you, for He has no lips save yours to speak to some; no heart save yours to feel for many; no eyes save yours to see and pity certain souls, no feet save yours to carry the glad news to thousands still in darkness. Will your do it? Or will you refuse them—will you refuse Him? You have the light. They have it not. You know the truth which they need. You have the message which was meant for them. What will you do with it now? Not in words but in deeds, not in sentiment but in sacrifice is India to be won. Are we, willing to pay the price? Do we love our country enough to sacrifice for it? Will our students offer themselves to go, and will our Indian Christians offer ro give? Yes, we believe they will. We believe in God, and because we believe in Him we believe in men—in the men of India.

Let no one say to his Lord, "I pray Thee, have me excused", let no one think that mere pessimism, or mere criticism of the movement will excuse him from his responsibility to God and to India. The movement is already organised. Leading Indians from every province of India have already begun to send in their names and subscriptions. The first Indian Christian approached said he would support a worker. Several educated young men have already offered for service. Missionaries have suggested and offered unoccupied fields in which to begin work. Many, from the moment they heard of the movement, have been praying for it. And now what wait we for? "All things are now ready." Brother, what will you do?

There are three things the movement needs—prayer, money and men. And there are three things which you can do. You can pray, you can give, you can go; or, if prevented, you can work for the movement where you are. Will you do these three things?

1. Pray—It is the call of our Lord Himself that bids us unite in prayer in the command, Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the Harvest that He send forth labourers into His harvest."

Have we prayed? Have we cared? Then let us begin to-day. For prayer is power. When we work we are largely limited by our own arms's length, but when we pray God works. "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." Brothers, let us pray with a new unity, with a new earnestness! let him who loves his country pray now.

It was in prayer in that upper room that Pentecost was received; in prayer that workers were chosen, new departures taken, obstacles overcome and victory won. In prayer every great movement of modern missions was founded, and in prayer every great revival has begun. Hudson Taylor and the China Inland Mission found, by experience, in raising up more than seven hundred workers, that—"To obtain successful workers, not elaborate appeals but earnest prayer to God to thrust forth labourers are needed." And "He who prays most, helps most". Our community may lack many things, but who shall say we cannot pray? Nay our very need must bring us low at God's feet. For, this kind cometh not out save by prayer." Our Lord challenges our faith—"Believe ye that I am able to do this?" According to our faith, not according to our wealth or worldly power, but according to our faith in believing prayer will the power of this movement be.

Think of David Brainered striving in prayer for the savages in America, as he writes: "God enabled me so to agonize in prayer that I was quite wet with perspiration, though in the cool wind. My soul was drawn out for multitudes of souls." Hear John Hunt crying on his death-bed: "Oh, let me pray for Fiji, Lord, save Fiji!" Remember Henry Martyn praying with tears for the multitudes in India, on the sands at Madras, or the banks of the Hoogly, as he cries: "Now let me burn out for God!" These men went to lay down their lives for foreigners in a distant land. Brothers, have we no prayer, no tears for India? Are we not willing to burn out for God, to lay down our lives for our own fellow-countrymen? In God's name let us begin to pray, to live and to die for India. "Deeper than the need for men; deeper than the need for money; aye, deep down at the bottom of our spiritless life is the need for the forgotton secret of prevailing prayer." Then let us pray. Reader will you pray daily for India, with Burma and Ceylon, and for the "National Missionary Society"?

CHURCH NEWS

Bishop elect for Nagpur Diocese

The Rev. Vinod Anand Rao Peter, who was the Presbyter-incharge of All Saints' Cathedral, Nagpur, was elected and consecrated as Bishop, to succeed the Rt. Rev. R. S. Bhandare. The consecration took place on December 16th, 1984 at the All Saints' Cathedral, Nagpur. The N.M.S. of India congratulates him and assures him of its prayers.

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

North Tamil Nadu News :

31st December 1984 was another Big Day in the history of the N.M.S. and also of the Nadanoor mission field. It was a day of joy and excitement. As the hours of the year 1984 drew its curtains down 14 people were marching forward with courage and determination to follow the one and the living God of the Universe. While it was drizzling they knelt down in full submission in the gushing waters of the brook in the presence of the Lord accepting Him as their Lord and Saviour.

The Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah Bishop of Vellore Diocese graced the function with his presence in spite of his busy schedule, with thought provoking and appropriate message to the infant believers.

Rev. Rufus Jeyakaran, Presbyter Central Church conducted the baptism service. The other participants include Dr. Pullimood, Mr. Jasper Daniel, Mr. & Mrs. Jepa Gnanam, Mrs. Emma Koshi, Mrs. Abraham, Mr. R. Alfred, Mr. A. Bhaskaran and friends from Lanchestor, United Kingdom.

This programme was organised by the St. Johns Church, Vellore. As Organising Secretary I had the privilege of being a witness to this programme. I praise God and thank everyone who participated in the programme.

DAVID SURESH,
Organising Secretary.

South Tamilnad :

The Madurai City Area Committee had its Annual Sale on 10-11-1984 at the O.C.P.M. Higher Secondary School, Madurai. The Rt. Rev. Dr. D. Pothirajulu, Bishop in Madurai presided over the function and Major P. P. Chinnadurai, Registrar of Madurai Kamaraj University opened the sale.

A thanksgiving service was organised on the evening of 11-11-1984 in the same campus in which Mr. Aruldoss our evangelist in Jawadhi Hills spoke about the N.M.S. work.

Thanks to the Organising Secretary, Rev. S. Jeyapaul David and to Madurai City Area Committee Leaders.

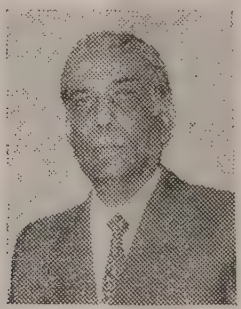
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

1. Singh Sisters of Lucknow have given Rs. 6,000/- for the Scholarship Fund for the training of N.M.S. Evangelists.

2. Rev. Paul Das, Allahabad whose children have donated Rs. 12,000/- has sent this amount to the Headquarters for investment as Rev. Paul Das Fund. The interest accrued from this amount will be used for the scholarship of the deserving children of the N.M.S. Evangelists.

On behalf of the Society, I thank the donors and praise God for them. Others who are interested like this may follow these good examples.

OBITUARY



Mr. F. E. Rajarathnam—Madras.

1. Mr. F. E. Rajarathnam entered into eternal rest on 17th December 1984. He was 65 years old. The funeral service took place on 18th at the St. George's Cathedral Madras.

He hails from the Fenn family from Nagercoil.

He was a staunch supporter of the N.M.S. and used to have a stall at the M.C.A.C's Annual Sale in Madras as 'Rajarathnam's family Stall'. He used to raise Rs. 4000/- to Rs. 5000/- annually.

He leaves behind his wife children and grand children.

2. Mr. M. R. Swamy, Joint Secretary of N M.S. Jabalpur Branch passed away into eternity. He leaves behind his wife and children. He used to visit members and collect funds for the Society.

3. Mr. Chandran Isaac, Senior Social Worker of C.M.C., Vellore passed into eternity due to heart attack on 11th December 1984. He was 43 years old. He has left behind his wife and two children.

4. Mrs. Annapoorni Ammal of Katpadi entered into eternal rest. She is the mother of Mr. Aruldoss, Headmaster who takes much intiative in the work of N.M.S.

5. Mr. G. George President N.M.S. Trivandrum Area Committee entered into eternal rest on 13th December 1984. He was ailing for about 2 weeks. His passing away was a shock to many of his friends and relatives. Mr. George was the President of the Trivandrum Branch from 1969 and he took real interest in the day to day working of the branch. For the last three years his health was affected and yet he did his best to serve the Lord through the Society. He leaves behind his wife and Children. The Trivandrum N.M.S. Area Committee has lost an able President.

The N.M.S. of India offers its condolences to the members of the bereaved families and prays that God may give them strength to bear the loss and be with them as Emmanuel.

MY FATHER

Mr. D. Joshua Parasuvaikkal had his Home Call on the morning of 28th December 1984. He was 79 years old. He was ill from 22nd of November 1984. Earlier I informed you that he was hospitalized and was improving. The following lines may help you to live a life which may be pleasing to God and useful to people.

Teacher and hard worker :

He worked as a primary school teacher in the mission schools of the South Travancore Diocese of the C.S.I. Along with the teaching job, he used to work in his land both in the morning and evening and he taught his children also to do hard work. Bee keeping was his hobby.

Adult education :

Every evening he used to gather the illiterates from surrounding houses and teach them to read and write using some Christian literature. Recently a cobler made the remark—"It was this teacher who opened my eyes to read and write".

Helping the Church :

As family all of us used to attend all the programmes in the church which is about 1½ kilometers away. We have to walk

through the paddy fields. No night meetings were missed. We (father, mother and 3 children) were greatly blessed by participating in the church programmes. He taught the Seniors in the Sunday School.

Evangelistic Outreach :

He was a member of the Gospel team of our Church. But every Sunday afternoon, he used to go to a village called Adumankadu, where there was only one Christian family and the rest of the people were non-Christians. Making that Christian family, as a base he started a Sunday School. This programme was initiated, while the late Moderator Bishop Gnanadason was the pastor of our Church. The work continued and later he was able to begin a congregation in that place.

After retirement :

After retirement from the School he took up the church work as a volunteer and gave it up on my request, but used to visit the village congregations and encourage them to grow in christian life.

Father and Children :

Though he did not spend much time with his children he was concerned about their discipline. He was very strict and disciplined us. He did not spare the rod. On holidays he used to take us to the important places. Every day both in the morning and evening he conducted the family prayers.

Father and myself :

Among the 3 children I have been benefitted most from him and through him. It was at the age of 13, that he took me to the retreat which was being conducted for the Parasuvaikkal Gospel Band. The prsent C.S I. Moderator Bishop Jesudason was our Pastor and who conducted the retreat. During the retreat my father expressed to me, "We have dedicated you for the ministry and now you need to take a decision for yourself". It was a happy news to me and I too accepted their decision and dedicated myself. He used to send me to student camps and conferences, which helped me to move out for the Lord.

My heart is filled with gratitude and praises to God for my father. My mother played her own part in building me in my spiritual life. She had her Home Call on 28th November 1980. Praise God for my parents.

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

CHRISTMAS CHEERS ACCOUNT 1983—'84

Mr & Mrs B Bhaskaran	50	00
Mr B H Samuel	50	00
,, E C Muthu	50	00
,, Z Oliver Chelliah	10	00
,, A Alexandar Samuel	40	00
Miss Prabha Jesudasan	50	00
Mr A S Rajasekaran	15	00
Mr & Mrs C Thomas Bauliah	100	00
Mr G Gnanamuthu	10	00
,, Dominik David	10	00
Mrs Janaky K Pandian	25	00
Mr S Devairakkam	100	00
,, M George Joseph	5	00
,, K Isaac	5	00
,, I N Deendayalan	5	00
,, D I Baskaran	20	00
,, S E Dharmaraj	10	00
,, I John Rufus	10	00
Mrs Mercy Devasirvatham	30	00
Mr J Gnanamani	50	00
,, A H Khan	25	00
Miss Mary R Sulochana	50	00
Mr G V Qadi	25	00
,, William G Kairavala	20	00
,, D William	10	00
,, S Thangaswamy	5	00
Mrs Anne Daniel	5	00
Mr J Wilson	100	00
,, Ranganatha Vinayagam	50	00
,, K K Koshy	50	00
,, J C James	25	00
,, T Deva Sambath	25	00
Rev M Henry Jolten	100	00
Mr L Vincent	100	00
,, M Edward Samuel	5	00
,, Joseph Devasunder	50	00
Hon. Treasurer Calicut	125	00
Mr A Arnold	100	00
,, Abraham S Rajender	2000	00
,, J Balasunder	10	00
,, I S Thomas Michael	25	00
,, W B Konrey	200	00
,, Thomas Jeyaraj	15	00
,, J Thomas Dharmaraj	20	00
The Rev Sam D George	70	00
Mr M Gnanaprakasam	25	00
,, E B Victor	30	00
,, E Victor	1000	00
,, J A Robert	25	00
Mrs Juliet Jebathai	10	00
Mr T J Kunneneril	50	00
Mrs S B Devapiriam	20	00
Mr P S Durairaj	100	00
Rev & Mrs Jeyasingh	42	00
Rev K G S Dorairaj	50	00
Mr D S David	50	00
N.M S. Branch Bangalore	600	00
Mr J P Ashwal	415	00
Rev Paul Sanjeevi	50	00
Mr A V Ramana	25	00
Mrs R V Lakshmi	25	00
,, Koteeswara Raj	50	00
Mr O James Meyyan	24	00
Rev M O Rajamony	20	00
Mr D Augustin	15	00
Mrs V Gnanadeepam	5	00
Mr V M Ithyerah	10	00
,, V D Sahayam	10	00
Mrs Glory Samraj	10	00
St. Paul's Church	200	00
Mr M Jacob	5	00
,, Jayantkumar Das	10	00
,, S T Savangolder	10	00
,, S Stephen	75	00
,, T Victor	20	00
,, Francis D Devaraj	10	00
Rev Dr Jean Jeyachandra	30	00
Mr M John Samuel	10	00
,, George Joseph	10	00
,, S William	5	00
,, I C Jeyakumar	50	00
,, Alexander James	10	00
,, Gabriel	5	00
,, P G Douris	5	00
Mrs Marshield	5	00
Mr A S David	10	00
,, D J Paul Raj	20	00
,, V C Simon	10	00
,, C Jason	10	00
,, C J Thangaraj	20	00
,, A C Misra	15	00
,, M Jeya Edwin	10	00
,, T D Samuel	115	00
,, M Theophelus	20	00
Mr & Mrs S Daniel	100	00
The Nagercoil Church Ladies ministry	200	00
Rev Dr A N Gopal	10	00
Mr T S Sawancoudar	10	00
,, A Chandran	25	00
,, Eric Wilson	50	00
,, S Owen	35	00
Sis. Chandravathi	100	00
Hon. Treasurer C.S I. Meenambakam	150	00
Mr J P Ashwal	260	00
St. Johns Church Vellore	300	00
Dr K C Abraham	10	00
Mr Edward Devavaram	10	00
,, T George Thomas	5	00
,, F S Charles	100	00
,, Phelsings Rane	50	00
Thro Mr J A Ashwal	35	00
Thro Mr J Ashwal	10	00
Rev J M Jeyasingh	132	00
Mrs I C Peters	20	00

(Further list will follow)

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Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp 1985

Dates : 20th May — 29th May, 1985.

Place : N. M. S. Mission Field, Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills, North Arcot District, Tamilnad.

Young people between the age limits of 15 to 25 may attend. (Higher Secondry and College Students).

Kindly pray for the speakers and Arrangements.

For further details contact. Convenor,
R. C. S. F. Camp,
N. M. S. Office,
206. Peters Road,
Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

WILL YOU

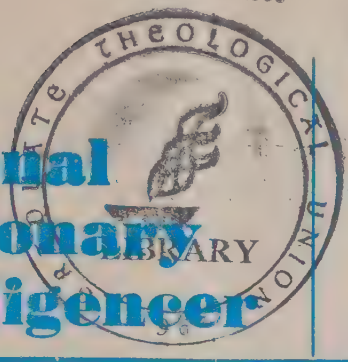
HELP US TO SERVE YOU BETTER?

IF SO

Quite a number of magazines and birthday cards return back to us, under the label, addressee left, not sufficient address etc. Hence will you intimate us, your correct address with Pincode and also in the event of change in your residence?

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS Hc 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Print Mr K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press. Madras-600 002

JUN 0 4 1985



The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 78 FEBRUARY 1985 No. 12

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The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Peter in Action Contd.

Act. 8 : 14 - 20

Background :

Acts 8:5 refers to Philp going over to Samaria to proclaim the Good News, of "THE JESUS CHRIST". He was a layman, an elder in the Church in Jerusalem. The Apostles were in Jerusalem, but Philip moved out to meet the Samaritans who were kept aside from the main stream of the Jewish Community. Jesus said "ye shall be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth" Acts. 1.8. The Samaritans accepted Jesus. Wonders and miracles were wrought.

Samaritans have already heard the word of God. When Jesus went to Samaria the women at the well came to know about Jesus and through her many others (John 4:39)

There was another occasion, when the Samaritans did not receive Jesus (Luke 9:52-53). But now the Samaritans received the word of God. The people may reject Him, but later they are the ones who will be in the Kingdom of God. It was reported from Basai in M.P. that a certain man opposed vehemently the preaching of the word, but after some time due to the illness of his son, he believed in Jesus Christ and accepted Him. It may seem to us as opposition but the word of the Lord put within them will start working and some day that seed will sprout out.

Apostles sending apostles vs. 14.

Realizing what was happening in Samaria, the apostles, who were in Jerusalem decided to send Peter and John to Samaria to see what was happening there. They were sent to strengthen the new believers in faith. It is not sufficient to bring people to Christ but follow up work is necessary.

Apostles praying for the converts vs 15.

Peter and John prayed for them 8-15. Praying with the Converts and praying for the converts is a must. Quite often people are brought to Christ and no attention has been given to nurture them in Christian faith. It is said that they were not told about the Holy Spirit but only baptized in the name of Jesus. The new Converts in Samaria received the power of the Holy Spirit. To

live a victorious living and to be a witness of Jesus, we need to recognize the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus commanded His disciples to wait in Jerusalem to receive the power of the Holy Spirit. Every believer needs to have the indwelling Spirit of God. It is necessary to note that, they were baptized only in the name of Jesus. The command of Jesus was to baptize the people ".....in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" Math 28:19.

It is the privilege of every believer to be filled by Him and controlled by Him. The apostles particularly Peter as a Jew had the problem of accepting others. The spirit of God taught Peter, that the Samaritans who were baptized in the name of Jesus also can have this experience.

Efforts to purchase the spirit of God and consequences. vs. 18-24.

(1) Simon, the sorcerer (Vs. 9) also believed in Jesus and was with Philip (vs. 13). This Simon noticed the laying of hands by the apostles and the believers being filled with the spirit of God. He desired that he may also lay hands on the people to be filled with the power of God.

(2) He offered money to the disciples—Simon thought that he can purchase the power of God with money. There are believers who think that by pleasing the pastor, evangelist and Church leaders they can have spiritual gifts. The old man in Simon was very much alive, though he believed in Jesus. We should not forget, that even the devil believes in Jesus as the Son of God.

(3) Peter's warning Vs. 20-24, Simon was warned and he was told :

a) "Your money will perish with you because you thought that you can purchase the gift of God by your worldly possessions". What about our intentions. Today how much money we spend in getting elected to the church offices and committees. We are prepared to spend money to achieve power and positions.

b) Simon was told that his heart was not right with God and that it was wicked. A man can believe in Jesus and yet he can have a wicked heart, which cannot be easily understood. "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" Jeremiah 17.9. Simon was told of the condition of his heart. What about mine and yours?

c) He was commanded to repent and pray to God. Repentance is necessary for forgiveness. Quite often, when we are warned, we harden our hearts, rather than repenting and asking forgiveness from God. How we repented from our sins of omission and commission and received the assurance of salvation. He was told of the consequences, if he did not repent. My dear fellow Christian believer, you and I are warned of the bitter consequences, if we do not repent for our sins.

d) Simon responds. He responded to the warning given and pleaded to pray for him. vs. 24. God expects us to plead for mercy. We need not wait for tomorrow, but today is the day of Salvation. It is said "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" John 1:9.

Continued in preaching Vs. 25.

Before they returned to Jerusalem they visited many other villages of Samaria and preached the gospel. The gospel need to be proclaimed in the villages. There are hungry souls and sorcerers who need to be cleansed of their sins. The apostles Peter and John went into the villages. Have you thought of going into the villages to reach the unreached with the gospel of Christ. Multitudes live in villages of our country. Who will care for them? They too need Christ the Saviour.

J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

1985

We are in 1985 and we look ahead with much hope and expectations. Let our expectations be from God.

Elections :

We have witnessed another Lok Sabha Election in which the Congress I, has come to power and formed the ministry under the leadership of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. Let us uphold the new Ministry and our Prime Minister in our Prayers.

Diocesan Council :

I had the privilege of attending the Madras and Vellore Diocesan Councils and I was given the privilege of sharing the concerns of the N.M.S. On behalf of the N.M.S. and myself I am thankful to the Bishops

the Rt. Rev. Sundar Clarke and the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah for giving me the opportunity.

Baptism :

The last day in the year 1984 was marked with the baptism service at Nadanoor in Jawadhi Hills. 14 adults and a child were baptised. More details are found elsewhere in this issue.

Another 3 :

Another 3 people have joined the work with the N.M.S. They will be at the Headquarters for a month and then sent to the field and to Tirupathur Ashram for another month, before they are sent to the mission centres. They are M/s. Dayanandan, Devanesan and Sampath James. They too need your prayers.

Family News :

In the January issue, I had stated about the illness in the family but on the early morning of 28th December 1984, my father had his Home Call. He was 79 and I praise God for his life and witness. I have penned down a few lines about him under the title "My father" which may help you. I know there were many people who prayed for his recovery.

Commissioning Service :

The Good Shepherd Church and the Risen Redeemers Church in Madras have commissioned Miss Vasantha Kumari David of Kagal and Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel of Jawadhi Hills and adopted them for their support. Thanks to the Presbyters and Pastorate Committees of the above Churches.

The North Indian N. M. S. Workers Conference :

Last year we planned to have it at Delhi, but we could not have it. After much thought and prayer, we have decided to have it at Gorakhpur at the end of March 1985. Please pray for the Conference and for the needed funds.

We are also planning for the Seekers Conference in Patna for the Converts at Biharshariff at the later part of March 1985. There are about 50 seekers and Converts. Kindly pray for the participants and needed funds for the same. This will cost about Rs. 4000/-. We have to meet their travel and food expenses.

May the eternal God continue to be with you all.

With prayers.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

BRANCH NEWS

Kerala: The Trivandrum Area Committee had its 74th Anniversary meeting and the sale on November 24th at the T. J. M. Hall in C.S.I. Compound, Trivandrum.

The Public meeting was presided over by its President Mr. George. The Chief guests were Rev. Dr. Jacob Varghese, Principal K.U.T.S. Trivandrum and his wife Mariam Varghese. Mr. K. George, Vice President welcomed the gathering and gave a brief account of its activities. Rev. Jacob Varghese emphasized the need for evangelising our country and urged its members to pray for the future work of the Society. Miss Vilasini White, the Secretary read the report. Mrs. Mariam Varghese declared open the sale.

The N.M.S. Evangelists from Kulathupuzha both Mr. Stephen Purushothaman and Mr. T. Pappachan were present and brought vegetables and spices for the sale.

MISS VILASINI WHITE
Secretary

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

Mr. Ranjit Kumar—U.P. and Bihar.

During the early part of December 1984 he had to work on the special Christmas issue of the Hindi N.M.S. bulletin. He also had the privilege of speaking in different denominational churches in Lucknow. He has covered the Eastern U.P. where he was able to contact "Free Baptist Churches of North India" Thus far they are not very much acquainted with the work of the Society. Let us pray that these new contacts in U. P. may bring us more support.

NOTICE

Change of Telephone No. of the N.M.S. office.

Old	New
83477	87314

The New Number will come into effect from 16—2—1985.

Members are kindly requested to note the new number.

FIELD NEWS

Hebri — Karnataka : Mr. Godfrey Soans

He has visited people in their houses and talked about the love of Jesus. He has also distributed tracts. He conducts a Bible class every week to the children at Sitanadi. A special Christmas programme was conducted for the children on 26th December 1984. Pray that the people contacted may find Christ in their lives.

Kulathupuzha — Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

Balan Kani son of Mr. Gangadaran Kani is learning to sing Christian songs and let us praise God for the new developments in this family. They are all showing much interest in the gospel. He is also reading the New Testament. There are people who have received tracts and gospel portions. Pray that they may find Christ as they read God's word.

SIKKIM — Singtom — Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham
Kamdong — Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal
Rhenock — Mr. & Mrs. Bir Singh Ademnu Lepcha.

Mr. Bir Singh and his family have joined the work from 1st December 1984. There is much progress in the work in Sikkim. The evangelists have visited villages and hospitals where they have shared the love of Jesus with the people.

Mr. V. T. Abraham writes that another couple is waiting for baptism. Your prayers are requested for the work in Sikkim. This is a cold season and God may help them to bear cold and strive to reach the people with the gospel.

PURI : Rev. and Mrs. Paul Sanjeevi,
Mr. & Mrs. Daud Saguar,
Mrs. Mariamma Kotteswara Rao,
Mr. R. V. Ramana and Mrs R. V. Lakshmi.

Rev. Sanjeevi reports that a 9 year old girl of Mr. Zachariah expired. Mr. & Mrs. Zachariah need our prayers. Another believer Kanakamma slept in Christ in December 1984. Mr. Nookaraj is sick and he needs your prayers.

Every year during the Christmas time, a few converts will be baptised but this time they did not have the baptism service, because of various reasons.

Poor people were presented with clothes from the congregation. Prizes were distributed to the Sunday School children and to the children in the school.

The Rt. Rev. D. K. Mahanty was present for the New Year Service and conducted the service. The following members of the congregation gave the following items and donations.

Mr. Chinnappa Rao donated a Church Bell and Mr. Avarsathy Raj and Mr. Samuel donated Ceiling Fans for the Church. A few others have promised a table fan, Petromax light and two tube lights.

The work in Puri requires a Megaphone for open air preaching. Rev. Sanjeevi requests you to pray for the enquirers.

Mr. Daud Saguar who works in Nolayasahi area has intimated that 4 people are willing to accept Christ. He is conducting classes for the children in the mornings and in the evenings he visits people in their houses. A convert is put in difficulty by his father-in-law because of his Christian Faith. Please pray for this convert.

Basai-M. P. Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Stanley Mohan and Mr. Yovab Singh.

As we are aware, the whole of North India is under the grip of cold wave and chill weather. Our evangelists at Basai have reported that they are suffering in this cold season. Please uphold them in your prayers.

Bodora, Barora, Herapur, Luckenpur and Babina villages were visited. In these villages tracts and gospel packets were distributed. Pray that people may read and know Christ through the distributed literature.

Pray for Ramkumar driver, Tamil Friends, Srikantan and Ganeshan, Ganesh Ram and for the conduct of regular evening meetings at Basai and for a student who received a Bible.

Praise God for the following who have accepted Christ : Thunan Singh, Muna Singh and Muma of Janakphur and for their spiritual growth.

Kattiyankudisai — Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam.

Christmas programme went off well, reports the evangelist. Praise God for Chinnaswamy of Veerapatti village, since he continues to grow in faith. He faces stiff opposition from his kith and kin. Kindly pray that he may be sustained and also bring members of his family to the Christian fold.

M/s Kuppuswamy, Vellian, Velliandi, Doraiswamy and Chinnaswamy were baptized at Nadanoor on 31-12-1984. Let us pray for the above converts, specially for Kuppuswamy and Velliandi who have opposition from their people and also for the 14 individuals who have received the New Testaments.

Thongumalai — Mr. & Mrs. Ananda Chandrasekaran

Let us thank God together with the Evangelist for the protection and care which He has given during the past year.

Pray for the efforts that are taken for conducting day school and night adult education programmes and the people of his area may be benefited and these programme may lead them to know the living God in due course.

Pray for the conversion of the village leaders in this area. It is planned to bring about 10 families to the feet of Christ. Pray that this may be realised with God's Grace. Mr. Chandran has requested you to pray for God's guidance for this New Year.

Veerapanoor — Mr. & Mrs. Robert John.

Praise God for enabling Mr. & Mrs. Robert John to start their work at Veerapanoor which is a new place for them. God has been gracious to them in their work. He writes that by prayers Rani was relieved from epilepsy and similarly many sick people were also healed and he requests you to remember them in your prayers.

Pray for Alagesan and Ravi, who are responsive, but are facing certain restrictions due to family problems. Pray for the Sunday and Wednesday meetings held at Shanmugham's and Chinnapillai's houses respectively. Pray for Govindan and Swaminathan who at times create unpleasant situation in the work.

Nadanoor — Mr. G. A. Raju and Mr. Gnanaraj.

Let us praise God the Almighty for enabling us to bring people from Nadanoor and Kattiankudisai to profess their faith in Christ through baptism. Prayers are requested for the converts in order that they may steadfastly grow in the Lord. Thank God for the Vellore, St. John's Church's participation and the efforts taken by them for the successful conduct of baptism service at Nadanoor.

Kalyanamanthai — Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Mr. Jesudoss reports that he has visited 17 villages: Praise God for His strength and courage which enabled him to do the work.

Prayers were answered and a woman was relieved from the demon possession and it has paved the way for her son to accept Jesus Christ.

Christmas was celebrated. People from the entire area attended it and it was a great blessing. New Year service was conducted along with the all night prayer.

More than 10 boys have accepted Christ and are very enthusiastic in their faith. Please do continue to uphold these youths in your prayers.

Kandali—Karagapatti — Dn. & Mrs. Thiraviam.

Concentrated efforts are being taken in 10 villages. In these areas tracts, Gospel packets and New Testaments have been distributed.

Sick people, and demon possessed were prayed for and were delivered from their bindings and this has helped many more to seek earnestly the living God. The all night prayer meetings have helped the local Christians to strengthen themselves in their spiritual life. Pray for 2 individuals of Kasinaicken-Patti village, who are ready to take baptism and an individual at Kottur village has offered to donate a piece of land for the construction of a church building. If this materialised it will be another base for the non-christians to know more about Christ.

Night school helps very much for this work. Please pray for Kuppu and Pattammal who are responding at various levels, so that they may accept Christ whole heartedly.

Gundalathur — Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel.

Evangelistic work, day and night schools and Medical work are continued to be carried.

Pray for Subramani who has received the New Testament and also thank God for another individual who has been demon possessed and was relieved by the continuous prayers.

Christmas programme was conducted in all its fervour. Local people and also from adjoining villages attended the service. It was a service of great blessing writes the Evangelist. Praise God for all those who were physically healed by the treatment rendered and for others who are in the treatment. Pray that God may touch and heal their hearts also.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. XXVI

Ah, when shall He see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied, in India? His heart bends down in tender pitying love over each aching heart, each sinful soul, each darkened life in this needy land. And seeing the multitudes He looks to us—to you and me. To you, for He has no lips save yours to speak to some; no heart save yours to feel for many; no eyes save yours to see and pity certain souls, no feet save yours to carry the glad news to thousands still in darkness. Will your do it? Or will you refuse them—will you refuse Him? You have the light. They have it not. You know the truth which they need. You have the message which was meant for them. What will you do with it now? Not in words but in deeds, not in sentiment but in sacrifice is India to be won. Are we, willing to pay the price? Do we love our country enough to sacrifice for it? Will our students offer themselves to go, and will our Indian Christians offer ro give? Yes, we believe they will. We believe in God, and because we believe in Him we believe in men—in the men of India.

Let no one say to his Lord, "I pray Thee, have me excused", let no one think that mere pessimism, or mere criticism of the movement will excuse him from his responsibility to God and to India. The movement is already organised. Leading Indians from every province of India have already begun to send in their names and subscriptions. The first Indian Christian approached said he would support a worker. Several educated young men have already offered for service. Missionaries have suggested and offered unoccupied fields in which to begin work. Many, from the moment they heard of the movement, have been praying for it. And now what wait we for? "All things are now ready." Brother, what will you do?

There are three things the movement needs—prayer, money and men. And there are three things which you can do. You can pray, you can give, you can go; or, if prevented, you can work for the movement where you are. Will you do these three things?

1. Pray—It is the call of our Lord Himself that bids us unite in prayer in the command, Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the Harvest that He send forth labourers into His harvest."

Have we prayed? Have we cared? Then let us begin to-day. For prayer is power. When we work we are largely limited by our own arms's length, but when we pray God works. "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." Brothers, let us pray with a new unity, with a new earnestness! let him who loves his country pray now.

It was in prayer in that upper room that Pentecost was received; in prayer that workers were chosen, new departures taken, obstacles overcome and victory won. In prayer every great movement of modern missions was founded, and in prayer every great revival has begun. Hudson Taylor and the China Inland Mission found, by experience, in raising up more than seven hundred workers, that—"To obtain successful workers, not elaborate appeals but earnest prayer to God to thrust forth labourers are needed." And "He who prays most, helps most". Our community may lack many things, but who shall say we cannot pray? Nay our very need must bring us low at God's feet. For, this kind cometh not out save by prayer." Our Lord challenges our faith—"Believe ye that I am able to do this?" According to our faith, not according to our wealth or worldly power, but according to our faith in believing prayer will the power of this movement be.

Think of David Brainered striving in prayer for the savages in America, as he writes: "God enabled me so to agonize in prayer that I was quite wet with perspiration, though in the cool wind. My soul was drawn out for multitudes of souls." Hear John Hunt crying on his death-bed: "Oh, let me pray for Fiji, Lord, save Fiji!" Remember Henry Martyn praying with tears for the multitudes in India, on the sands at Madras, or the banks of the Hoogly, as he cries: "Now let me burn out for God!" These men went to lay down their lives for foreigners in a distant land. Brothers, have we no prayer, no tears for India? Are we not willing to burn out for God, to lay down our lives for our own fellow-countrymen? In God's name let us begin to pray, to live and to die for India. "Deeper than the need for men; deeper than the need for money; aye, deep down at the bottom of our spiritless life is the need for the forgotton secret of prevailing prayer." Then let us pray. Reader will you pray daily for India, with Burma and Ceylon, and for the "National Missionary Society"?

CHURCH NEWS

Bishop elect for Nagpur Diocese

The Rev. Vinod Anand Rao Peter, who was the Presbyter-in-charge of All Saints' Cathedral, Nagpur, was elected and consecrated as Bishop, to succeed the Rt. Rev. R. S. Bhandare. The consecration took place on December 16th, 1984 at the All Saints' Cathedral, Nagpur. The N.M.S. of India congratulates him and assures him of its prayers.

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

North Tamil Nadu News :

31st December 1984 was another Big Day in the history of the N.M.S. and also of the Nadanoor mission field. It was a day of joy and excitement. As the hours of the year 1984 drew its curtains down 14 people were marching forward with courage and determination to follow the one and the living God of the Universe. While it was drizzling they knelt down in full submission in the gushing waters of the brook in the presence of the Lord accepting Him as their Lord and Saviour.

The Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah Bishop of Vellore Diocese graced the function with his presence in spite of his busy schedule, with thought provoking and appropriate message to the infant believers.

Rev. Rufus Jeyakaran, Presbyter Central Church conducted the baptism service. The other participants include Dr. Pullimood, Mr. Jasper Daniel, Mr. & Mrs. Jepa Gnanam, Mrs. Emma Koshi, Mrs. Abraham, Mr. R. Alfred, Mr. A. Bhaskaran and friends from Lanchestor, United Kingdom.

This programme was organised by the St. Johns Church, Vellore. As Organising Secretary I had the privilege of being a witness to this programme. I praise God and thank everyone who participated in the programme.

DAVID SURESH,
Organising Secretary.

South Tamilnad :

The Madurai City Area Committee had its Annual Sale on 10-11-1984 at the O.C.P.M. Higher Secondary School, Madurai. The Rt. Rev. Dr. D. Pothirajulu, Bishop in Madurai presided over the function and Major P. P. Chinnadurai, Registrar of Madurai Kamaraj University opened the sale.

A thanksgiving service was organised on the evening of 11-11-1984 in the same campus in which Mr. Aruldoss our evangelist in Jawadni Hills spoke about the N.M.S. work.

Thanks to the Organising Secretary, Rev. S. Jeyapaul David and to Madurai City Area Committee Leaders.

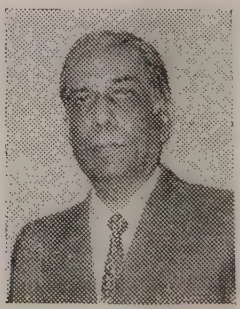
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

1. Singh Sisters of Lucknow have given Rs. 6,000/- for the Scholarship Fund for the training of N.M.S. Evangelists.

2. Rev. Paul Das, Allahabad whose children have donated Rs. 12,000/- has sent this amount to the Headquarters for investment as Rev. Paul Das Fund. The interest accrued from this amount will be used for the scholarship of the deserving children of the N.M.S. Evangelists.

On behalf of the Society, I thank the donors and praise God for them. Others who are interested like this may follow these good examples.

OBITUARY



Mr. F. E. Rajarathnam—Madras.

1. Mr. F. E. Rajarathnam entered into eternal rest on 17th December 1984. He was 65 years old. The funeral service took place on 18th at the St. George's Cathedral Madras.

He hails from the Fenn family from Nagercoil.

He was a staunch supporter of the N.M.S. and used to have a stall at the M.C.A.C's Annual Sale in Madras as 'Rajarathnam's family Stall'. He used to raise Rs. 4000/- to Rs. 5000/- annually.

He leaves behind his wife children and grand children.

2. Mr. M. R. Swamy, Joint Secretary of N.M.S. Jabalpur Branch passed away into eternity. He leaves behind his wife and children. He used to visit members and collect funds for the Society.

3. Mr. Chandran Isaac, Senior Social Worker of C.M.C., Vellore passed into eternity due to heart attack on 11th December 1984. He was 43 years old. He has left behind his wife and two children.

4. Mrs. Annapoorni Ammal of Katpadi entered into eternal rest. She is the mother of Mr. Aruldoss, Headmaster who takes much intiative in the work of N.M.S.

5. Mr. G. George President N.M.S. Trivandrum Area Committee entered into eternal rest on 13th December 1984. He was ailing for about 2 weeks. His passing away was a shock to many of his friends and relatives. Mr. George was the President of the Trivandrum Branch from 1969 and he took real interest in the day to day working of the branch. For the last three years his health was affected and yet he did his best to serve the Lord through the Society. He leaves behind his wife and Children. The Trivandrum N.M.S. Area Committee has lost an able President.

The N.M.S. of India offers its condolences to the members of the bereaved families and prays that God may give them strength to bear the loss and be with them as Emmanuel.

MY FATHER

Mr. D. Joshua Parasuvaikkal had his Home Call on the morning of 28th December 1984. He was 79 years old. He was ill from 22nd of November 1984. Earlier I informed you that he was hospitalized and was improving. The following lines may help you to live a life which may be pleasing to God and useful to people.

Teacher and hard worker :

He worked as a primary school teacher in the mission schools of the South Travancore Diocese of the C.S.I. Along with the teaching job, he used to work in his land both in the morning and evening and he taught his children also to do hard work. Bee keeping was his hobby.

Adult education :

Every evening he used to gather the illiterates from surrounding houses and teach them to read and write using some Christian literature. Recently a cobler made the remark—"It was this teacher who opened my eyes to read and write".

Helping the Church :

As family all of us used to attend all the programmes in the church which is about 1½ kilometers away. We have to walk

through the paddy fields. No night meetings were missed. We (father, mother and 3 children) were greatly blessed by participating in the church programmes. He taught the Seniors in the Sunday School.

Evangelistic Outreach :

He was a member of the Gospel team of our Church. But every Sunday afternoon, he used to go to a village called Adumankadu, where there was only one Christian family and the rest of the people were non-Christians. Making that Christian family, as a base he started a Sunday School. This programme was initiated, while the late Moderator Bishop Gnanadason was the pastor of our Church. The work continued and later he was able to begin a congregation in that place.

After retirement :

After retirement from the School he took up the church work as a volunteer and gave it up on my request, but used to visit the village congregations and encourage them to grow in christian life.

Father and Children :

Though he did not spend much time with his children he was concerned about their discipline. He was very strict and disciplined us. He did not spare the rod. On holidays he used to take us to the important places. Every day both in the morning and evening he conducted the family prayers.

Father and myself :

Among the 3 children I have been benefitted most from him and through him. It was at the age of 13, that he took me to the retreat which was being conducted for the Parasuvaikkal Gospel Band. The prsent C.S I. Moderator Bishop Jesudason was our Pastor and who conducted the retreat. During the retreat my father expressed to me, "We have dedicated you for the ministry and now you need to take a decision for yourself". It was a happy news to me and I too accepted their decision and dedicated myself. He used to send me to student camps and conferences, which helped me to move out for the Lord.

My heart is filled with gratitude and praises to God for my father. My mother played her own part in building me in my spiritual life. She had her Home Call on 28th November 1980. Praise God for my parents.

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

CHRISTMAS CHEERS ACCOUNT 1983—'84

Mr & Mrs B Bhaskaran	50	00
Mr B H Samuel	50	00
,, E C Muthu	50	00
,, Z Oliver Chelliah	10	00
,, A Alexandar Samuel	40	00
Miss Prabha Jesudasan	50	00
Mr A S Rajasekaran	15	00
Mr & Mrs C Thomas Bauliah	100	00
Mr G Gnanamuthu	10	00
,, Dominik David	10	00
Mrs Janaky K Pandian	25	00
Mr S Devairakkam	100	00
,, M George Joseph	5	00
,, K Isaac	5	00
,, I N Deendayalan	5	00
,, D I Baskaran	20	00
,, S E Dharmaraj	10	00
,, I John Rufus	10	00
Mrs Mercy Devasirvatham	30	00
Mr J Gnanamani	50	00
,, A H Khan	25	00
Miss Mary R Sulochana	50	00
Mr G V Qadi	25	00
,, William G Kairavala	20	00
,, D William	10	00
,, S Thangaswamy	5	00
Mrs Anne Daniel	5	00
Mr J Wilson	100	00
,, Ranganatha Vinayagam	50	00
,, K K Koshy	50	00
,, J C James	25	00
,, T Deva Sambath	25	00
Rev M Henry Jolten	100	00
Mr L Vincent	100	00
,, M Edward Samuel	5	00
,, Joseph Devasunder	50	00
Hon. Treasurer Calicut	125	00
Mr A Arnold	100	00
,, Abraham S Rajender	2000	00
,, J Balasunder	10	00
,, I S Thomas Michael	25	00
,, W B Konrey	200	00
,, Thomas Jeyaraj	15	00
,, J Thomas Dharmaraj	20	00
The Rev Sam D George	70	00
Mr M Gnanaprakasam	25	00
,, E B Victor	30	00
,, E Victor	1000	00
,, J A Robert	25	00
Mrs Juliet Jebathai	10	00
Mr T J Kunneneril	50	00
Mrs S B Devapiriam	20	00
Mr P S Durairaj	100	00
Rev & Mrs Jeyasingh	42	00
Rev K G S Dorairaj	50	00
Mr D S David	50	00
N.M S. Branch Bangalore	600	00
Mr J P Ashwal	415	00
Rev Paul Sanjeevi	50	00
Mr A V Ramana	25	00
Mrs R V Lakshmi	25	00
,, Koteeswara Raj	50	00
Mr O James Meyyan	24	00
Rev M O Rajamony	20	00
Mr D Augustin	15	00
Mrs V Gnanadeepam	5	00
Mr V M Ithyerah	10	00
,, V D Sahayam	10	00
Mrs Glory Samraj	10	00
St. Paul's Church	200	00
Mr M Jacob	5	00
,, Jayantkumar Das	10	00
,, S T Savangolder	10	00
,, S Stephen	75	00
,, T Victor	20	00
,, Francis D Devaraj	10	00
Rev Dr Jean Jeyachandra	30	00
Mr M John Samuel	10	00
,, George Joseph	10	00
,, S William	5	00
,, I C Jeyakumar	50	00
,, Alexander James	10	00
,, Gabriel	5	00
,, P G Douris	5	00
Mrs Marshield	5	00
Mr A S David	10	00
,, D J Paul Raj	20	00
,, V C Simon	10	00
,, C Jason	10	00
,, C J Thangaraj	20	00
,, A C Misra	15	00
,, M Jeya Edwin	10	00
,, T D Samuel	115	00
,, M Theophelus	20	00
Mr & Mrs S Daniel	100	00
The Nagercoil Church Ladies ministry	200	00
Rev Dr A N Gopal	10	00
Mr T S Sawancoudar	10	00
,, A Chandran	25	00
,, Eric Wilson	50	00
,, S Owen	35	00
Sis. Chandravathi	100	00
Hon. Treasurer C.S.I. Meenambakam	150	00
Mr J P Ashwal	260	00
St. Johns Church Vellore	300	00
Dr K C Abraham	10	00
Mr Edward Devavaram	10	00
,, T George Thomas	5	00
,, F S Charles	100	00
,, Phelsings Rane	50	00
Thro Mr J A Ashwal	35	00
Thro Mr J Ashwal	10	00
Rev J M Jeyasingh	132	00
Mrs I C Peters	20	00

(Further list will follow)

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Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp 1985

Dates : 20th May — 29th May, 1985.

Place : N. M. S. Mission Field, Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills, North Arcot District, Tamilnad.

Young people between the age limits of 15 to 25 may attend. (Higher Secondry and College Students).

Kindly pray for the speakers and Arrangements.

For further details contact.

Convenor,
R. C. S. F. Camp,
N. M. S. Office,
206. Peters Road,
Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

WILL YOU

HELP US TO SERVE YOU BETTER?

IF SO

Quite a number of magazines and birthday cards return back to us, under the label, addressee left, not sufficient address etc. Hence will you intimate us, your correct address with Pincode and also in the event of change in your residence ?

Edited and published by Rev. S. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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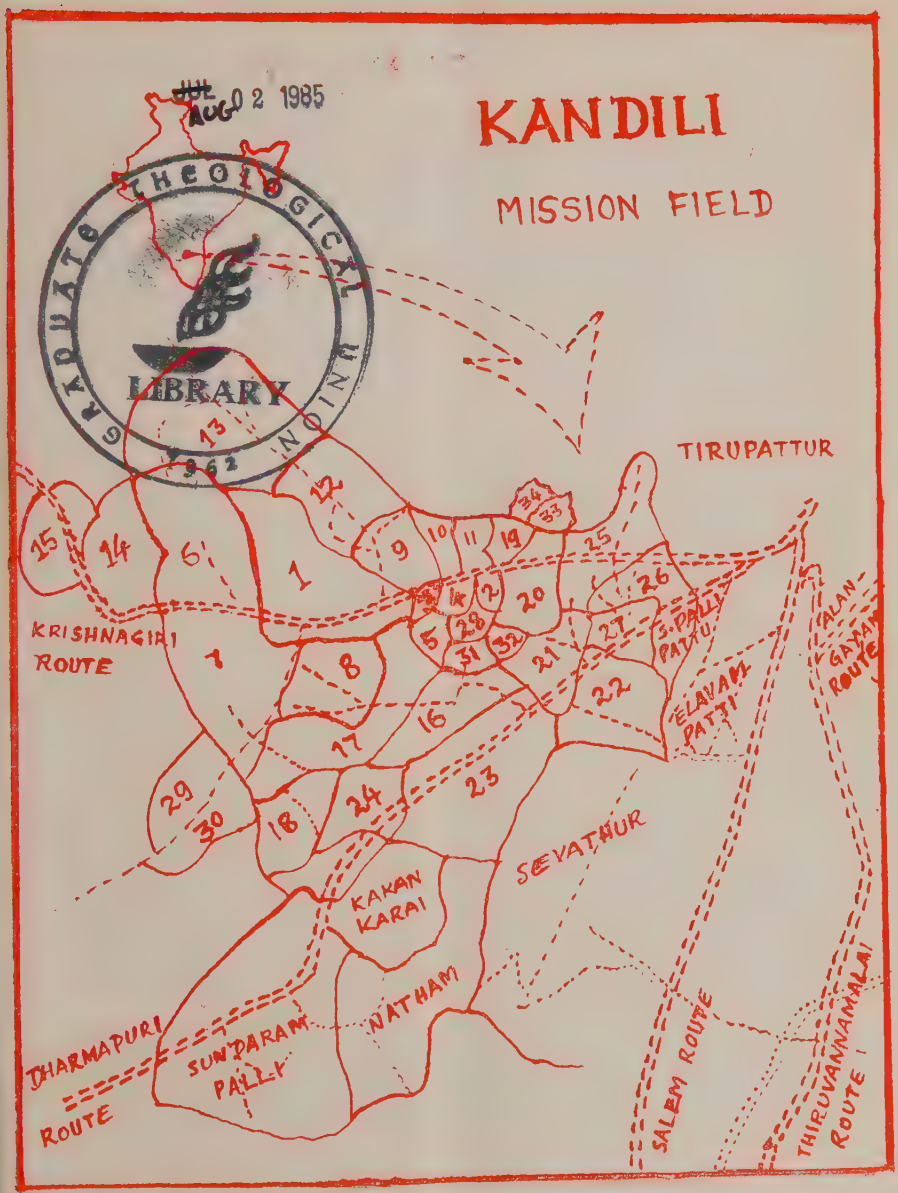

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9. Obituary and other News
10. Organising Secretaries Conference

The branches and Area Committees are requested to send their collections to the Headquarters so as to reach before 31st March 1985. 1984-1985 accounts will be closed on 31st of March 1985.

The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

MEDITATION

Peter in Action (Contd.)

Acts. 9 : 32 - 42

Peter in visiting people—Vs. 32.

In the previous issue of the N.M.I. we had noted, Peter and John were deputed to visit the believers in Samaria and here it is said that "as Peter passed through out all Quarters". The apostle had the responsibility of visiting and encouraging the believers where ever they were. Now he was there in Lydda to meet the Saints. The believers were called saints and even they needed visitation. This was and is necessary to strengthen the believers faith in God. Quite often we say "Oh I went for house visiting" but Peter went to visit people. Visiting people will give them assurance that there are people with them in their tribulations, sorrow and in happiness.

Peter in healing—Vs. 33-34.

We find Aeneas was sick for eight long years. Visiting makes us meet people and know their needs. Peter "found a certain man". Peter was able to find who was needy and he found him in a bedridden condition. Peter came here as a helper to the helpless. And Peter said to the sick man "Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole". The Apostle did not say "I heal you" but he said "Jesus Christ heals you completely." Often we have heard preachers and faith healers pray "I heal you in the name of Jesus". We need to note that Peter was used as an instrument in God's hand and he said "Jesus Christ heals you". Healing has to come from God. Doctors, medicines, faith healers, Preachers, Pastors and praying friends are used as instruments in God's hand. Let us thank God for the medicines and people, but they are not the healers. Aeneas was healed in the name of Jesus. Even today it is possible and it does take place. Have faith in God. 3 years back while we were conducting the Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp, we found a young man who was possessed with evil spirits. He was a participant at the camp. We prayed in the name of Jesus and the evil spirit left him. The name of Jesus has power and authority.

Peter in raising dead—Vs. 36-41.

Peter moved from Lydda to Joppa. Here was a disciple called Tabitha, who was ill and died. She was a helper to the

helpless and widows. Her ministry was among women and she had a following too." This woman was full of good works and alms deeds which she did." Vs. 36. So she had a good reputation and a following. What ever may be the good work done, death comes to every one, which no one can escape.

Peter was informed with this sad news, by the disciples in Joppa. One thing has to be noted here in this passage, the believers in Lydda were called 'Saints' and the believers in Joppa were called 'disciples'.

The disciples in Joppa had the knowledge of Peter and what God can do through Peter. On his arrival Peter found a group of people weeping and expressing of what Tabitha had done while she was alive.

Vs. 40. needs to be studied very carefully, particularly for the steps of action which Peter took.

1. He sent out the weeping crowd. He did not want any one else to be there, except he and the body of Tabitha.

2. He knelt down. Humbled himself before God.

3. He prayed to God to raise her up.

4. He turned to the dead body and commanded and she was raised.

Results of Peters action—Vs. 35-42

People of Lydda and Saron turned to the Lord. It made the people to turn to the Lord Jesus. It has to be noted "all that dwelt in Lydda and Saron". Healing a sick man in the name of Jesus made everyone turn to the Lord. In Joppa, it is stated "many believed in the Lord." Two different terms are used. A complete turning from their old Gods to a new God and complete turning from their old belief to a new belief. Peters action had brought people to Jesus Christ the Lord and God.

May our life and witness help people to know and accept Jesus Christ the Lord God. Have we brought people to Him?

(Will be continued from May issue)

Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Praise God

1) I Praise God for enabling us to have the needed funds for the month of January. He is great and He supplies the need. I want you to join with me praising God, because last year (1984) we faced a crisis with regard to the finance.

2) On 26th of January 1985, 4 adults were baptized. Three were from one family. They were supplied with the Bibles given by the Coimbatore friends. Please pray for the new converts.

Organising Secretaries Conference:

The Organising Secretaries' Conference was held at Jamnamarathur from 25th to 28th of January 1985. They had the privilege of participating at the baptism service held at Thongumalai and meeting the new converts at Nadanoor. They had also the privilege of visiting Kandili, Karagapatti and Veeranamalai.

There are possibilities to develop the work in these areas. The work in Veeranamalai is among the Lambadies.

North Indian N. M. S. Workers Conference:

As it was informed through the N.M.I. the North Indian N.M S. workers conference will be held in Gorakhpur, U.P., from 28th to 31st of March 1985. This needs your fervent prayers.

Seekers Conference:

A seekers conference is also planned for the seekers and converts in Bihar Shariff. A few may witness Christ through baptism. Your prayers are sought for this.

Organising Secretaries:

Mr. K. P. Sathyaraj, who was the Hon. Organising Secretary for Central Karnataka has resigned. Thanks to him for what he has done in Bangalore.

The Rev. Jeyapaul David, Organising Secretary for South Tamilnad, who was deputed from the Tirunelveli Diocese of the C S I. was called back to the Diocese from 1st February 1985 as his service was needed in the Diocese. We are thankful to him for what he has done during the last 2 years and 8 months to strengthen the work of the Society.

Let us pray that the Lord may give us suitable people to

work in Central Karnataka and South Tamilnad as Organising Secretaries.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building :

The Building work was at a stand still for about a month but now it is progressing. Pillars have risen up. Funds are needed for this purpose. Your liberal contribution for this endeavour is necessary. You are also requested to look to God, in prayer for this project.

Four Years Completed :

On 31st of January 1985, by Gods Grace, I have completed four years. It was on 1st February 1981 that I took over the work as General Secretary which the Lord of Missions entrusted upon me. There were victories and failures encouragements and discouragements. Yet the Lord strengthened me to carry on the work. I marvel at the way in which the work could be developed.

Not by might nor by power but by the spirit of God. All glory and praise to Him and Him alone.

I praise God for all those who are in the Committees, fields Organising Secretaries, Office staff and particularly for the praying and supporting friends.

Another thing I have realized is that I am not alone and there are a number of praying friends standing with me and upholding me in the ministrty.

Visit to Kagal :

I had the privilege of visiting our work in Kagal area in Maharashtra. Miss Vasantha Kumari David, the lady evangelist, has started her work, as she speaks in Marathi and is able to convey the message. We visited 3 villages and found that she has made contacts. A brief report about my visit will appear in the next issue of the N.M.I.

Lent :

Another season of Lent has come, to fast and pray and to get closer to God. During these days we will be meditating on the sufferings of our Master and Lord Jesus Christ. We need to pray for the revival in our churches. May the Lord's blessings be upon you.

With prayers,

Yours in His Service,

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

KANDILI MISSION FIELD

Geographical.

Kandili is in Tamilnad which is at the border of North Arcot Dist. It is about 20 kilometers away from Tirupattur and also on the bus route to Krishnagiri. This area belongs to the Kandili Panchayat Union.

People : People belonging to different communities are living in the villages in and around Kandili and they are Kurumpars Gounders, Naidus, Nayakas, Thottikollar (astrologers) Vanniars, Chettiars, Bhramins and other sheduled tribes and other castes. The total poulation of this area is about 35,000 people.

Religion : Majority of the people are Hindus and there are a few scattered Christians. People in some villages are fanatics and refuse to permit the evangelist into their villages. Some times they print notices and distribute them among the people against Christian faith. Mostly this is done by the R.S.S. friends.

Education of the people : There are 82 elementary schools and 7 High schools in the Kandili Panchayat union. A good number of young people are educated. The older generation have learned to read and write through the N.M.S. Schools at Puram. (N.M.S. was working in Puram and later the work was handed over to the Coimbatore Diocese of the C.S.I. and the Vellore Diocese has started the work in Puram).

Evangelism and Evangelists : Mr. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam are the evangelists in this area. People have some idea about Christianity. Some of the educated people come to the residence of the evangelist and get gospel portions. The work was started in April 1984. Though there are 34 villages in the union area, our evangelists are regularly visiting 20 villages. 6 people have accepted Christ after the work was started in this area. About 25 people continue to make enquiries.

Vision of the Tirupathur C.S.I. Church.

The Pastor at Tirupathur supervises the work in this area. Rev. Christopher and his friends, visit our evangelists, and participate in the evangelistic work.

Prayer requests :

Pray for Decon A. Thiraviam and his wife. They visit the villages as a family. They have two small children.

Pray for the converts who are being prepared for baptism.

Pray for the enquirers that they may find Christ as their Saviour.

Pray for the people, those who oppose the gospel truths.

This centre needs a walkie talkie.

MISSIONARY DEDICATION

Mr. P. Moses was dedicated at the C S I. Church, Ashok Nagar, on 10—2—1985. The dedication service was conducted by Rev. D. I. Vedanayagam and Rev. Prince Chellapa. Rev. J. M. Jayasingh shared God's message. Mr. P. Moses will be supported by the Church.

Felicitation :

The former I.M S. General Secretary, the Rev. Jason Dharmaraj was elected and consecrated as Bishop of Tirunelveli Diocese on 9th January 1985, in the place of the Rt. Rev. Daniel Abraham. The N.M.S. of India, conveys its wishes and assures of its prayers for the New Bishop in his new incumbent.

N.M.S. Requires Organising Secretaries for South Tamil Area, Central Karnataka, Kerala.

Preferably Ordained Pastors from the Churches may apply.

Kindly contact :

The General Secretary, N.M.S. of India
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah,
Madras-600 014.

FIELD NEWS

Kandili-Karagapatti : Dn & Mrs. Thiraviam.

The dawning of the year 1985 was a great source of blessing, reports the evangelist. Prayer sessions, personal contacts, tract distributions were the areas which helped many more to know the Lord. Among the villagers of Kandili village, who have regular Bible studies and personal teachings; Raghu, Gunaseelan, Kuppusamy and Vaijayanthi are aware of Christs love and who are facing a number of problems. Please pray for them.

Also pray for Lakshmi who is facing eye trouble and for the students who are studying Bible Correspondence Courses.

Allery : Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles.

During the month 23 villagers were given the Gospel and it is very encouraging to see the responses.

Pray, that God should continue to grapple more into this fold, inspite of the unseen, unspelt customary village restrictions. Also pray for the regular Sunday Services and the participants who would be led to deeper understanding of God's love.

Kattiankudisai: Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam.

In this field, newly baptised individuals are greatly tossed by satanic forces in various walks of their life. Abraham, Isaac, Thomas and Raju need special prayers so they could withstand all the trials they face for adoring Christ.

Pray for Mr. & Mrs. Govindaswamy that they may be blessed in their married life, also for the converts meeting on every Friday and Sunday.

Nadanoor : Mr. Raju & Mr. Victor Gnanarajan.

Gospel through indigenous play (Kolattam and play back dramas) are presented at various villages, this has been very effective. Along with this Medical care is also extended.

A pregnant woman called Chinnal, was brought for prayers and treatment. Praise and thank God for the relief and cure, which helped her to know the love of Christ. There is also a steadfast spiritual growth visible in the converts. Kindly pray for them and for the evangelists who are guiding them.

Basai : M. P.

Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Yovab Singh, Mr. Stanley Mohan.

Thank and Praise God for protecting Rev. Vyas and family who escaped miraculously from the jaws of death, in a scooter accident. He is now in the hospital undergoing treatment for fracture of his elbow. Pray that the time of convalescence would be the period of rest and closer fellowship with the Lord. Sri Ram Singh Rawat, Makkan Singh, Helke Yadar and a worker in the electricity board accepted the Lord at the Sunday Service. Also pray for the following people who have earnest queries, so that they may know the only living God. They are, Hari Om Prakash Gupta, Tilak Singh and the nurses of the nearby hospitals.

Maharashtra—Kagal : Miss Vasantha Kumari David.

The following six villages Kagal, Rangoli, Pattankudi, Kognoli, Yekondi, Pimplegoan are regularly visited and gospel focussed.

At Kagal 12 Christians are in regular contact systematic Bible teaching with prayer is conducted. On Saturday, children meetings are also a regular feature.

Weekly Bible study is undertaken at Rangoli for women and it is planned to conduct bhajans, children meetings at Kognoli. 30 non-Christian children attend the Sunday School.

Gundalathur : Mr. & Mrs. Jayaraj Samuel

The new year service was conducted and a few elders and leaders of the village participated in worshiping Christ Jesus. The Nattar of Odamangalam was met and the good news was told. (Nattar is the designation given to the head of 10 villages in Jawadhi Hills. The village head is known as Ooran). A T. B. patient was met and the message of Jesus was conveyed to him.

1) Pray for the elders and leaders of the village.

2) Pray for the Nattar and his conversion.

3) Pray for students who come to the night school.

4) Pray for the patients who were treated during the month of January.

Mrs. Saramma Jeyaraj was very sick and she is better now. She needs our prayers. . She had given medicine to 175 people in the month of January.

Patta has to be secured for the land where our evangelist lives. Please pray that the Lord may speak to the concerned authorities to do the needful.

Jamnamarathur : Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss

Watch Night Service was conducted at the Chapel in Jamnamarathur during the month of January 1985. Mr. Aruldoss has visited 10 villages and nearly 150 people were contacted with the Gospel message. M/s. Mohan and Purushothaman (Tailors) are being prepared for baptism. Kasi, Unnamalai and Selvaraj are interested to learn more about Christ. The hostel building work is in progress. Mr. Aruldoss also visited Vazhakadu area and about 25 people were told about the love of Jesus. Among them Pappa, Vasuki, Thathi, Kullu Unnamalai and Murthy needs your prayers. Tracts were also distributed. Special prayers are requsted for Durai, Shanthi, Mohan and Purushothaman who are being prepared far baptism. The girls in the N.M.S. girls hostel needs your prayers.

Veerapanoor : Mr. & Mrs. Robert John.

15 villages were visited and the gospel message was proclaimed. At Velithathan village a woman possessed by evil spirits was delivered. Kullu and Boochi believed Jesus Christ. There were many others who were healed through prayers.

Your prayers are requested for the following :

1. A magician, who is the teacher in the area is threatening the students who are coming for the night school.
2. A few people who want to become Christians, particularly for Banu, Rani, Perumal, Sarasu and Pattu who are being prepared for baptism.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. Pappachan & Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

Mr. Pappachan reports that while visiting Pottamavoo tribal area, he had the opportunity of sharing the gospel and many people gathered together listen to the gospel message. The same thing has happened in Cherukara tribal area too. These incidents have encouraged him.

Mr. Stephen Purushothaman writes that he was chased by a wild elephant when he went to meet people with the gospel of Christ. Praise God for the protection.

Hebri—Karnataka: Mr. Godfrey Soans.

Mr. Soans has visited Mandady Jeddu, Bachappur and Huthurke. Special prayers are requested for Mr. Kalu Chetty and his children, Sadananda Nayak, Shanker Chetty and Mr. Shekar. Gospel portions and tracts were distributed. Prayers are requested for the people who are contacted with the gospel of Christ.

Kota—Rajasthan: Mr. Barun Kumar Saumi.

He writes that he went to a particular village and preached the gospel message, but the people were very angry. He continues to visit the villages and proclaims the good news. He has requested to pray for the people who are contacted and who are reading the tracts.

Kashmir: Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih.

He writes, "In the villages of Gandherbal and Srinagar Tehsils, I had conversation with 25 people and 50 gospels were freely given and 500 pamphlets were distributed. A few people were impressed and they asked the following questions.

Q. 1. "With one tongue Christians say that God is one and with the same tongue they worship three Gods' and how is that ?"

A. "As man is one, he is made of three things a) body b) soul c) Spirit and if out of these one is separated, the man will not survive and he cannot be called man".

"One body is a) Father b) Son, c) Holy Spirit. Out of three if one person is not there then God cannot be called God".

Q. 2. "Is it possible that God could become flesh and come into this world ?"

A. "If this is impossible for God, we are saying that God does not have power to do this and we reduce his power to less than that of a magician. There is nothing impossible for God".

Q. 3. "Eventhough Christ was a prophet, at his second coming he will proclaim the religion of the prophet Mohammed and will say Muslim creed (Qulma)"

A. "If Jesus was prophet and being a prophet if he has to proclaim the religion of Mohammed at his second coming then he cannot be called a prophet (because every prophet has got his own message from God) he becomes follower of Mohammed which is impossible".

Q. 4. "If Christ was God then why did he cry on the Cross ?"

A. "Christ came into this world in the form of a man and he had a human body. That is why it was natural for him to cry and by his cry it becomes more clear that he suffered for all mankind.

Please pray that the enquirers and converts may be strengthened in their faith.

Kerala N. M. S. Branch News :

Mr. K. Chandy, Organising Secretary, Karala reports that a N. M. S. Branch was formed at C. S. I. Kazhakoottam Church, duing July 1984 with the following persons as office bearers.

President	—	**Rev. T. Sathanandan**
Vice President	—	**Mr. Robinson**
Secretary	—	**Mr. Wycliff**
Treasurer	—	**Mr. C. Ponniyan**
Joint Secretary	—	**Mrs. Rosamma.**

SOME IMPORTANT PRAYER REQUESTS

1. The North India N M.S. Evangelists and Missionaries Conference at Gorakhpur from 28th to 31st of March 1985.

    a) God may undertake everything for their travel.
    b) For the Speakers.
    c) For the arrangements.
    d) All the participants may be revived and refreshed.

2. A Conference for the converts and seekers of Bihar Shariff is arranged. Pray for the leaders and the participants.

3. The R.C.S.F. Camp will be held from 20th to 29th May 1985 at Jamnamarathur. Pray :

    a) for the participants and leaders
    b) for the arrangements
    c) for the funds.

4. The candidates from North India will be interviewed at the Bible Fellowship Centre in Gorakhpur on 27th March 1985. Kindly pray that the Lord may give us the wisdom to choose the proper candidates for missionary out reach in North India.

5. M/s. Dayanandan, Sampath James and Devanesan are under training and they will be sent to the mission fields from the middle of March 1985. They need your prayers.

6. More supporting groups are needed to support the work of the N.M.S.

7. The anti-Christian forces have started opposing the work in Basai and your special and fervent prayers are requested for the safety of our evangelists and converts.

Rumours have spread around that Mr. Tahir Masih's House was burnt very recently. Mr. Tahir Masih has informed the office stating, It is a "FALSE RUMOUR".

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. Part 27

2. "GIVE" — This is another command of Christ. "Give and it shall be given unto you" "Give ye them to eat". This is something which all can do. There is not a widow who cannot give two mites. It is true we have other calls and many are poor, but Christ bids us give the gospel to all India. We have duties to our own church and our own neighbourhood, but these we ought to have done and not to leave the other undone. For, poor as we are, "we can do it if we will." Many will be able to support a worker of their own, and though not able to go themselves keep their substitute in some unoccupied field. Many churches could have their own worker under the society. Since hearing of the N.M.S., one local church has already decided to support a worker of its own in a needy field. And even the poorest can give something. Are we willing to make some sacrifice for Christ? Among the Karens in Burma, when their crops had been destroyed, one small congregation out of their deep poverty brought in Rs. 15 toward sending the gospel to their heathen brethren in the North. When remonstrated with, they said: "It is God's money. You must take it. We can eat rats, but they cannot do without the gospel". We are not all called upon to make the same sacrifice, but are we willing to give up any comfort, any luxury, any unnecessary or expensive habit in order to save our country? Brother, what sacrifice will you make for India and for Christ?

Someone may object that we have no money to spare, that giving for the evangelisation of India will take away from our churches or other objects. But if we believe in God's Word and in the missionary principle, we know that the more we give the more we shall have to give—"Give and it shall be given unto you."

To draw another illustration from the West, Rev. Brandt of Kansas said at Toronto, Canada: "Six years ago our church was in debt, with also a bonded debt of $18,000 (or Rs. 54,000), when we realised our obligation to obey Christ's great commission; though heavily in debt we undertook the support of a missionary. That year we cleared our floating debt, and. for the first time in ten years, closed our accounts without a deficit. The next year we took another missionary abroad and one at home. That year we closed our bonded debt and closed with a balance in the treasury." In five years the church has given Rs. 30,000 to foreign missions, supporting three missionaries and thirty native workers in various lands, some of them in India. It has given also Rs. 30,000 to

Home Missions and over a lakh to work in their own city; while it has increased in membership, since it began to give, more than 800 members. "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth." One has said, "There is needed one more revival among Christians —a revival of Christian-giving. When that revival comes, the Kingdom of God will come in a day." How many of us are giving what the Jew with his lesser light, on his lower standard, was compelled to give—a tenth of our earnings to God ?

We read of the Corinthians that even "beyond their power they were willing." "but first they gave their own selves unto the Lord." Shall we not do likewise—first ourselves and then our substance? And let us not delay. "Who gives quickly, gives twice." A rupee placed at compound interest for 240 years becomes Rs. 25,00,000 in the hands of men. Cannot God do as much with our money? Like the loaves and fishes, like the widow's two mites, Christ will bless and multiply our gifts. Will not each reader send in his donation or annual subscription at once to the Treasurer of the N.M.S. Mr. K. T. Paul, B. A., Vepery, Madras? What will you give?

(To be contd.)

Song that speak - Part 17

MUST I GO, AND EMPTY HANDED

Words by C. C. Luther **Music by George C. Stabbins**

A man was wonderfully saved in a revival meeting. He received pardon and assurance of salvation from his Saviour and become a creature. The very next month he had to return to his creator. As he lay dying he muttered "No I am not afraid; Jesus saves me now. But oh! I must go, and empty handed? The Rev. A. G. Upham, his Pastor could not forget his last words. Later on when he referred to this incident in his preaching one Mr. C. C. Lutha was saved. The last words of that man touched his heart and when he went home, he composed this beautiful hymn. George C. Stabbins composed a fitting line for it and so we now have this famous soul winning hymn. Must I go, and empty handed? This is the question that rings in the heart of every redeemed person.

Stanza—1

Must I go, and empty handed,
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Not one day of service give Him,
Lay no trophy at His feet?

Does it not remind us of the parable of the pounds mentioned in Luke 19:12-27? The servant had to give account to his master. Had he made use of the talents given to him he would have received his reward. So is the case with many of us. Is your life fruit bearing? What have you done for your Saviour who shed his life blood on Calvary's tree for your redemption? Have you given Him atleast a day's service?

The Chorus reiterates the same theme.

Chorus:

Must I go and empty handed
Must I meet my Saviour so?
Not one soul with which to greet Him;
Must I empty handed go?

When you greet a King you should not meet him with empty hands. When you meet Jesus you should take some souls you have won for Him. What a shame will it be if you stand empty handed? Are you as selfish as that?

Stanza—2

Not at death I shrink nor falter,
For my Saviour saves me now:
But to meet Him empty-handed
Tho't of that now clouds my brow.

If one believes in Jesus he is saved. It happens that moment he accepts Jesus as his Saviour. You too can be saved right now. For those who are already saved this stanza poses a question. Have you won souls for your dear Redeemer? Are you prepared to meet Him empty handed? Why not you try to win a few trophies for Him right now?

Stanza—3

Oh, the years in sinning wasted,
Could I but recall them now,
I would give them to my Saviour,
To His will I'd gladly bow.

You might have wasted many years in your life, can you ever reclaim them now? If you can what will you do with them? One shudders to think of his own wasted years. Even now it is not too late. Start telling about Jesus. If you sow seeds of salvation atleast some will yield fruit and your hands will not be empty at that fateful hour.

A radio preacher received a card from an 80 year old man suffering from Cancer. He was not prepared to die and needed the help of the preacher. The preacher was very busy and when he found that he could not spare any time for him he sent his assistant with clear instructions that the soul must be won for Christ. When the assistant reached his house he found it locked. From the neighbour he learned that the man had died a few days earlier. One golden opportunity to win a soul was lost. Let it not be so in your case. Tell your wife, children, relatives, friends and others. Go on telling about Jesus wherever you go. You will reap a bumper harvest of souls.

Stanza—4

Oh, ye saints, arouse, be ernest,
Up and work while yet tis day;
Ere the night of death o'er take thee,
Strive for souls while still you may.

Jeremiah 8:20 says "The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved". Youth and beauty pass away. Time will not wait for any man. Now is the time to win souls. So ye saints of God! Arise! win the world for Christ.

This hymn is known as the soul winner. A man went to an evangelistic meeting and heard the song for the first time in his life. His soul was agitated and he had no peace afterwards. A few days later he attended another Bible study group where the

same hymn was sung. He could bear it no more. He opened his heart and confessed Jesus as his Saviour. He got wonderful peace at once. He was thrilled and ran home and told his wife and children about his experience. Soon his family, farm workers and other friends were led to Jesus by his testimony.

You need not have thelogical training. You do not require any equipment. Go and tell the world that "Jesus Saves." Do it now and you will see the fruits of your labour after many days.

Amen.

Rev. Dr Jeans I. Jeyachandran.

OBITUARY

We deeply regret to report that Mr. Y. M. D. Dhanaraj, a life member of the Society and Vice President of the Madras City Area Committee, entered into eternal rest on the 26th January, 1985, after a very brief illness. A Thanksgiving Service was held in the Bain School on the 27th and another thanksgiving Memorial Service was held by the members of the Madras City Area Committee on the 7th February 1985. We pray that the Lord Almighty may comfort and console the members of the family in their bereavement.

Mr. J. Pushpa Raj, retired Tahsildar and a member of the newly constituted branch of the N.M.S. at Vilupuram and a dedicated man who pledged to spend his retired life for the cause of village gospel work, passed away on 20th January 1985. The funeral service was conducted by Villupuram Branch N.M.S. President Rev. Charles Singaram, on 21st January at St. James Church, (C.S.I.) Villupuram. He leaves behind his wife, 2 sons & 3 daughters.

The N M.S. of India offers its condolences to the members of the bereaved family and prays that God may give them strength to bear the loss and to face the world at large with courage, wisdom and blessings of our Lord.

Organising Secretary's Conference

General Secretary and Organising Secretaries with the Hostel Girls in Jamnamarathur.

Left to Right Sitting ;

Rev. Justin N. Harris (Speaker for the Organising Secretaries Conference), General Secretary, Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, Associate General Secretary, Mr. V. G. Williams.

Left to Right Standing :

Organising Secretaries, M/s. David Suresh, Ranjit Kumar, K. Chandy, F. S. Charles, J. P. Ashwal, Rev. P, J. Victor.

Thus we saw the Reality

Amidst the busy schedule of the Organising Secretaries, it was a rare occasion to meet face to face at a conference arranged

for them in the settings of Sandalwood Plantation of the Jawadhi Hills in North Arcot District, Tamilnad.

The Conference had its solemn beginning on 25th January after a long and tiresome journey from the city of Madras to the hillock of Sandalwood groves.

Rev. Justin Harris a Senior Presbyter of the Methodist Church led the conference with the thought, 'abiding in Christ and bearing fruits', by it. The devotion, and other addresses made by him, evoked a positive response in realising the responsibility set before the participants. They made visits to Veerappanoor, Thongumalai, Nadanoor, Kandili and Veeranamalai mission fields. The other participants included General Secretary Rev. J. M Jayasingh, Hon Asso. Genl. Secretary, Mr. V. G. Williams, and the Hon. Treasurer Mr. M. D. Selvaraj, who made himself available for the last day deliberation on 29th January 1985.

The participation of the above personalities helped the Organising Secretaries in furthering their scope of thought in their areas.

A baptism service at Thongumalai was arranged in coincidence to this programme.

The entire proceedings came to an end with exclamations from different participants uttering "Oh I have seen the work in reality, now I will go and present it with greater emphasis."

Lastly the help rendered by Rev. Christopher, Presbyter C.S.I. Thirupathur Church, Mr. Vincent, Tirupathur Y.M.C.A. Jamnamarathur Evangelists and also other evangelists is worth mentioning.

On behalf of the Organising Secretaries,

DAVID SURESH,

Regd. No. M. 609

Licence No. 23 Licenced to post without pre-payment

The N. M. S. Madras City Area Committee Holds a Convention

from 15th — 17th March 1985

at C. S. I. Christ Church,

Weshermenpet, Madras.

Speaker : **Rev. GEORGE GNANAMUTHU,**
Tanjore.

Kindly pray and participate !

●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★●★

When a man points a finger at some one else, he should remember that three of his fingers are pointing at himself.

Anonymous,
Readers Digest, July 1984.

It is much easier to repent of sins that we have committed than to those we intend to commit.

J. B.
Readers Digest, August 1984.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press. Madras-600 002

National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 79 APRIL 1985 No. 2

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EASTER MESSAGE — A NEW BEGINNING

The month of April begins with a joyous note 'JESUS IS RISEN INDEED'. It is the day of resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, that calls us for a new beginning. In the early Church, Christians would greet each other on Easter Day with the words "CHRIST IS RISEN"! "HE IS RISEN INDEED!" What a joy it was for them to know that when the body of Jesus was taken down from the Cross and buried, this was not the end. On the third day He rose again from the dead. The resurrection of Jesus brings to mind three things: (1) He initiates the work. (2) We come to Him empty and helpless. He carries light of salvation and sanctification to shine out of our darkness. (3) Then there comes an orderly separation, suggestive of our being set apart unto Him. Next, growth takes place and finally we see our lives being reproduced in others (2 Cor. 4:6). This New beginning is because of the redemption of Christ completed at Calvary for our justification and His continuing intercessory ministry for our sanctification. You and I must experience HE IS PRAYING FOR ME! The psalmist DAVID said "I call on the name of the Lord and He answered me". The resurrection of our Lord from the dead is the same promise that CHRIST'S CONTINUAL PRAYERS SUSTAIN US THROUGH THIS TEMPTING WORLD UNTIL HIS COMING AGAIN.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH JESUS?
NEUTRAL YOU CANNOT BE;
SOME DAY YOUR HEART WILL BE ASKING,
WHAT WILL HE DO WITH ME?

RISE UP: HE IS RISEN — LIVING!!!

REV. GEORGE KARUNAKARAN.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Maramon Convention :

The Maramon Convention is conducted by the Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association of the Mar Thoma Church. It is an annual function where the Mar Thoma Church members and Christians of Kerala meet together It is a time of Revival, Re-vitalization, Fellowship with one another and participating in the work of the Lord through many ways. Revival and evangelism are the main concerns of the convention and for that the convention was started.

At this great gathering, N.M.S. is regularly given a place to put up its exhibits and a few minutes to speak about the missionary work of the Society. I had the unique privilege of sharing about the N.M.S. work. Mr. K. Chandy the Organising Secretary of Kerala had put up a stall to exhibit the missionary efforts of the N.M.S. and to contact the people for N.M.S. Mr. David Suresh the Organising Secretary for North Tamilnad assisted him.

On behalf of the Society and myself I am thankful to the Church heads and the Convention authorities for the kind help received from them.

Missionary Dedication :

Mr. Bir Singh Adenmu Lepcha, our missionary at Rhenopak in East Sikkim was dedicated at St. George's Church, Madurai on 10th March 1984 by the presbyter Rev. S. V. Christudoss. The Congregation will be supporting the work of Mr. Bir Singh Adenmu Lepcha through N. M. S. The St. George's Church is already supporting 7 other missionaries working in different organisations and ours is the 8th one. Praise God for them.

You are requested to pray that many more churches may come forward to support the work of the N. M. S. and to sponsor misionaries.

Trainees :

Messrs C. J. Dayanandan, J. Sampath James and C. Devanesan are currently undergoing a short period of training at the Christukula Ashram in Tirupattur. They will be sent to the fields only after 15th of April 1985. They need your prayers.

Basai :

Messrs Yovab Singh and Stanley Mohan our workers

were given trouble by the R.S.S. friends in Basai. They were pulled and pushed and were asked to quit the place. They need our prayers. Mr. P. Moses our new evangelist has joined the team in Basai. Please pray that the Lord may protect them from all possible attacks of the enemies. Rev. R. R. Vyas is still in the hospital and he needs your prayers.

Madras City Area Committee :

The Madras City Area Committee has shown some good examples for others to follow and the news is published elsewhere in this issue.

Elections :

Elections to the assemblies in most of the States were conducted in our country and we as Christians and Citizens of this country need to uphold the newly elected ministers in different states and union territories.

Examinations :

Our children will be writing their annual exams. during the month of April. Already the 10th standard exams are over in some states. I wish and pray that the Lord Jesus may help the children to do their best in the exams and get success.

Passion Week and Easter :

Yet another Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. What a privilege. We meditate on His sufferings and enjoy the Easter. But are we willing to participate in His sufferings ? He suffered for us. What have we done for Him. Let us allow ourselves to suffer for Him in proclaiming His love to others. May this year's remembrance of passion week and Easter be meaningful to all of us.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

Note :

In the previous issue (March) it was reported that a few lines will appear about the work in Kagal in the next issue, but due to the pressure of work, I could not do it and this will appear in the May issue.

FIELD NEWS

KASHMIR—Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih

Mr. Tahir reports that he has visited 12 villages and proclaimed the good news. He has also sold books like Yesu Masih, Senz Paidesh, John's Gospel and distributed tracts. Your prayers are requested for the N.M.S. ministry in Kashmir.

KOTA—RAJASTHAN—Mr. Barun Kumar Samui

During the month he has visited 17 villages and proclaimed the good news. He writes, "I see how man is angry with me. The distributed gospel portions are thrown away because they don't like to read them". He has also sold gospel packets and New Testaments.

People are under the impression that converts are made by giving land and money and a few have asked money and property to embrace christianity. Your earnest prayers are needed for the work in the villages around Kota.

KULATHUPUZHA—KERALA—Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan & Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

Mr. Pappachan writes, while visiting the Thenmala Plantation Colony, a young man Maya Alagu expressed that he has faith in Jesus Christ and he would like to grow in the faith. At the Villumala tribal area, one Mr. Vasu, who is a magician was confronted with the gospel of Christ. He has been told of the love of Jesus and he expressed that he would like to have a Bible and a New Testament was given to him. He promised to read.

Mr. Purushothaman writes that he had conducted eight prayer meetings both in the Plantation areas and tribal settlements. He is planning to open a Sunday School in the plantation area for which he needs the permission from the authorities. A young boy is very much interested in the gospel and he may come to the Lord.

Your prayers are requested for

Maya Alagu, Vasu (magician), Opening of a Sunday School and for the young boy.

WEST BENGAL—MALLIGACHI—Mr. N. C. Ghosh

Mr. Ghosh reports, that he has distributed 115 tracts and gospel portions. During the week days he is engaged in teaching children and only on the holidays and weekends he moves out to distribute tracts Please pray for the tracts distributed and through that people may come to know about Jesus and his love.

ORISSA—PURI—

Rev. & Mrs. Paul Sanjeevi,
Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi,
Mr. R. V. Ramana
Mr. & Mrs. Daud Saugar and
Mrs. Koteeswara Rao.

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi writes,

Your prayers are requested for the following matters :—

1) This year the fishermen did not have enough catch and they are suffering.

2. A few people are healed because of the fasting prayers by the congregation members. This ministry may be strengthened and the Lord may continue to perform miracles.

3) Mr. Peter, a faithful soul in the congregation fell down from the bicycle and has a small fracture in one of his hands.

4) One member of the congregation lost his fishing net worth about Rs. 8,000/- in the deep sea.

5) Mohan Rao's and Nookaraju's families are suffering from different problems.

6) A few converts from Puri fields have gone back to their own native place in Bangarampalem in A. P. and they wish to open a new field of N.M.S. in that area to proclaim the good news.

At Nolayasahi in Puri regular educational programme is conducted.

Mr. Daud Saugar writes : " Apart from teaching lessons I teach them Bible words and songs. I am conducting prayer meetings every evening and also visiting both Christian and Hindu

families. Some Hindu young men are willing to know about salvation. Now I am teaching them about salvation through Jesus Christ. Please pray for them.

BASAI—M. P. Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Stanley Mohan & Mr. Yovab Singh

Rev. Vyas is still under treatment. Pray that he may be healed completely. During the month of January all the 3 had joined together and proclaimed the Good News at the Mela (festival) in Basai. Recently the R.S.S. friends have given troubles to Mr. Yovab Singh and Mr. Stanley Mohan They were pulled and pushed and asked to move out of Basai. Our evangelists had to seek help from police. Pray that the Lord may protect them from the hands of the evil ones. Mr. P. Moses, new evangelist posted to Basai has reported for duty on 14-3-1985.

VEERANAMALAI—Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan

Mr. Velmurugan, our evangelist writes that he has visited Lambadi villages and proclaimed the Good News. Mr. Velmurugan is learning the dialect of the Lambadies. He has to travel about 30 kilometres through the forest roads to come to Vaniambadi for purchasing food materials.

KANDILI—Dn. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam.

Mr. Thiraviam writes that during the month of February 1985 he and his wife have visited 15 villages and met the people personally and told them about Jesus. Kamala who is a resident of Kuttur village had several big boils on her body for the past 3 years. She was treated in different hospitals. She was also treated by magicians and she spent about Rs. 7,000/- They explained to her the word of God, how the Lord Himself healed the sick and what He can do for her and they prayed for her. She is better now. Kindly pray that she may be completely cured. If she is healed, the whole family is prepared to come to the christian fold.

Please pray for,

1) Kamala and family,

2) The Hindu religious women in Kandili may come to the Lord.

3) Devasahayam a convert is ill and treated by his family members,

4) For the sick people,

5) For the converts who are being prepared for baptism.

ALLERY—Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles.

During the month of February 1985 Mr. Charles has visited 17 villages, and has contacted 50 people particularly and had personal conversation. He also states that non-christians are also attending the worship services.

KATTIANKUDISAI—Mr. & Mrs. P. Devairakkam.

Chinnapaiyan of this village was very ill because of the witch-craft of another man. He was treated by the evangelist at Nadanoor and was healed by his prayer. His faith in Christ has to be strengthened. It is reported that quite a few children are not attending the school, because of the baptism on 31—12—1984. They think that if they attend the school they have to become Christians. Pray for these children. The believers in the village are regularly attending the fasting and prayer and they are growing in grace. Duraisamy of Veerapattu prayed to God, when his ox was ill and he believes that God has healed his ox. Ponnusamy of Palampattu village has expressed his willingness to take baptism and because of this, his parents and relatives have stopped him from coming to the school. Please pray for the removal of such obstacles.

THONGUMALAI—Mr. & Mrs. Ananda Chandrasekaran

During the month of February, he was able to cover about 30 villages and about 200 persons were contacted individually.

Matters for Praise:

1) One of the baptized persons at Thongumalai shows much interest in the work of the Lord. Whenever he finds time he reads his Bible.

2) A few people who have accepted Jesus Christ.

Matters for prayer :

1) The baptized persons are threatened that they will be driven out of the villages.

(4 people were baptized at the end of January 1985)

2) Periapaiyan of Kunnukkanoor and Chinnasamy of Thongumalai have accepted Christ.

3) There are many people who are coming for prayer. They must find the Lord Jesus in their lives.

KALYANAMANTHAI : Mr. M. Jesudoss

Praise God for the people who have put their faith in Jesus Christ.

Prayer requests :

1) Miss Fatima, a teacher from Roman Catholic background has accepted Jesus Christ.

2) Mr. Selvaraj of Kalyanamanthai, who has passed S.S.L.C. has dedicated himself for the ministry.

3) Kuppan, Jeyachandran, Annamalai, Sivan, Natarajan, Murugesan, Saminathan, Govindasamy, Ramasamy and Govindan need our prayers as they have accepted Christ as their Lord.

4) A T. B. patient and his family come from Northamarathur for prayers, and the patient is better now.

5) The daughter of Mr. Annamalai has expressed that she has accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Saviour. She needs to be strengthened in the faith.

Mr. Annamalai is the man who has permitted us to build a chapel in his own land and now he wants to get back the land and the building. We need a place to put up the home and chapel.

6) In the village Chinnakottai, a woman has seen a very bright light in her house and she expressed that Jesus was in the light.

Mr. Jesudoss was on leave for a month, but he has visited 10 market places and preached the gospel to a number of persons.

GUNDALATHUR—Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel

Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel was very ill and God has healed her. Everyday about 30 students are attending the night school and hearing the good news. God has opened their mouths to pray and sing. Mr. Jeyaraj writes, "I was away from the station on 8th and 9th February 1985, but the boys have met together and prayed, and when I returned, the villagers came and reported this to me. On 10th, while I was returning to the village, I heard them singing and I found them gathered for the worship service by themselves. Praise God for the awakening. A convert from Jamnamarathur also came with me. He was amazed to see this. He also testified in the worship service."

The house at Gundalathur is in a very bad condition. It needs to be re-constructed. Unless the land is alienated we cannot put up a good building. Steps are being taken.

VEERAPPANOOR—Mr. & Mrs. Robert John.

Gospel was preached in 16 villages, sick were prayed for and healed. Every Friday fasting and prayer are conducted for the persons who are being prepared for baptism. Balaraman of Kottalar village has accepted Christ and he needs our prayers.

ATHIPET—Mr. & Mrs. James Meyyan.

During the month of January Mr. Meyyan has visited 12 villages and contacted 131 people personally.

He writes, "two of the converts are in back slidden condition. Please pray that they may come back to the love of Jesus."

JAMNAMARATHUR—Mr. & Mrs. M. Aruldoss.

Hostel News : Two girls, Unnamalai and Kannika have written their S.S.L.C. exams. The hostel building work will be completed very soon. Warden Mrs. Aduldoss also has joined Mr. Aruldoss in visiting villages and proclaiming the good news. Mr. Aruldoss has visited 10 villages. He writes, "I have a few enquiries, 8 people are being prepared for baptism." Prayers are requested for these enquirers and converts. Mr. Aseervadam and his family members visited Jamnamarathur and assured to help the work.

KNOW OUR N.M.S.I. Part 28

(Continued from March Issue)

3. Go.—God's call to-day is, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" "The harvest truly is plenteous, the labourers are few." Could we possibly have a stronger motive than the call of God, the command of Christ, the need of India? The claims of India upon our young men are imperative. Think of the glory of such service—to be a missionary sent of God to our fellow-countrymen. What other calling can compare with this? As Spurgeon says: "I should not like you, if meant by God to be a great missionary, to die a millionaire. I should not like it if you were fitted to be a missionary, that you should drivel down into a king. What are all your kings, all your nobles, all your diadems, when you put them together, compared with the dignity of winning souls for Christ, with the special honour of building for Christ, not on another man's foundation, but preaching Christ's gospel in regions far beyond?" You may point to secular professions, and their opportunity truly is great. But can you do as much by giving a tired fraction of your time as by giving all your time to direct Christian work? Honestly, before God, where do you thinkyou could do the most to advance God's Kingdom, where are you most needed? There may be those in India who will never in their life hear of Christ if you will not go to them. Why should we wait for foreigners to come and do what is our duty?

We have, as young men, long excused ourselves on the ground that the present conditions of mission service were such that we did not feel called upon to enter Christian work. But that excuse, which has been a real difficulty with many of us, is now gone forever. The time of the testing of the reality of our loyalty to Christ has come. Shall we fail Him now? Here is a society ready to send us controlled by no foreigner, but our very own. There are a hundred millions of our fellow countrymen now living who cannot possibly hear of Christ if we refuse them the gospel. Here are whitened harvests and no labourers to reap them. And here is our Lord, standing before us in tender pleading, as before Simon, centuries ago, saying. "Lovest thou me? Lovest thou me? Feed my sheep".

It is choice between self and Christ; between silver and souls. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve. What is our real purpose in life? Is it to "get" or to "give", to exalt self or save our fellow-men, to please ourselves or to please Him who loved us and gave Himself up for us? It is a question we must all answer. What shall your answer be?

It is true that all cannot now go as missionaries. Many are too old, some are too feeble. But all can work. We can all become members of the society. We can get others to join. We can form local bands to pray and give. We can hold missionary meetings and let the facts of our country's need be known. We can endeavour to have the subject of India's need and our responsibility presented from all our pulpits. In whatever station or occupation we can all do something. Let us all join in this great work! All names of members wishing to join the society. and offers for service on the part of students willing to go, should be sent to the General Secretary N.M.S.—Mr. V. S. Azariah, Palamcottah.

There are some of us who are able to go. We are young, we have education, life is still before us. Why has God given us this talent, and what shall we do with it? Shall we hide it from God? Was our education given us for the purpose of self-advancement or to serve our fellow-men? As one great college principal has said: "No man can make the most of his powers of mind and heart and will, until he employs those powers in the service of his fellow-men. No other work compares in potent possibilities for good with this of light-bearing in dark places." "Here is the noblest opening for you that the world presents." Or, in the words of that great call to the students of our generation, from a martyr of our own day: "While vast continents lie shrouded in almost utter darkness, and hundreds of millions suffer the horrors of heathenism or of Islam, the burden of proof lies upon you to show that the circumstances in which God has placed you were meant by Him to keep you out of the field."

The voice of our brothers still in darkness is calling us to-day: "Come over and help us." The voice of our God is calling:. "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" Who will answer—

"Here am I, send me?"

AREA NEWS

The Madras City Area Committee had their election and the new leaders have taken up the work. They are responsible people working in Government offices and private firms.

President	—	Mr. G. Devaraj
Secretary	—	Mr. A. Bhaskaran
Treasurer	—	Mr. W. Joacquim

Welcome to the new office bearers. The spirit of the outgoing office bearers to see a new team has to be appreciated.

The outgoing officers of the Area Committee are Mr. V. G. Williams, Mr. P. C. Arumainayagam and Mr. Thomas Bauliah. They are the people who were guarding the fort for the last several years.

The new team organised an All Night Prayer at the N.M.S. office on 13th March 1985 to pray for various matters.

Madras City Area Committee and Convention

Under the auspices of the Madras City Area Commtttee a Convention was conducted from 15th to 17th March 1985 at the Christ Church, Washermenpet. The Rev. George Gnanamuthu of Tanjore brought the messages from the Lord. The N. M. S. General Secretary explained about the work in different Centres. Mr. Bir Singh Adenmu Lepcha testified and spoke. The Rev. Soundararajan and the Pastorate Committee were kind enough to have the Convention in the Church.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FROM 1-4-83 to 31-3-84

Mr. & Mrs. Mathew M. Easow, Dubai
Mr. P. Hemachandran
Mr. D. Indran
Mr. S. Thangiah
Mr. D. Jeyaraj
Mrs. Vimala Paulraj, U.S.A.
Dr. V. P. Macaden
Rev. Rajah D. Stephens
Mr. Herrick C. Samuel, Coimbatore
Baby Jubilee Jayasingh
Mrs. M. Gilbert, Rae Bareli
Master Jeevan Satyaraj, Bangalore
Miss Sangeetha Sathyaraj
Master Nirmalan Devaprasad
Master Jeyakumar (C/o Mr. D. W. Herbert)
Mr. Wilson J. John
Mrs. R. G. Mantaramurthi
Mr. Oliver Frank Harris
Mr. P. C. Arumainayagam
Mrs. Annie Arumainayagam
Mr. S. A. Aruldoss
Mr. Y. Samuel
Mr. Shekar Charles
Miss Joy Celestine
Dr. A. Susheel Packianathan
Mr. J. C. Rajakumar
Mr. J. Shelton
Mrs. Maggie Shelton
Mr. Sudersan Thomas Jeyaraj
Mr. Suseedaran Samuel
Miss Sumithi Grace
Dr. A. I. John Ebenezer, Tiruvalla
Master Timothy Theodore Jayasingh
Mr. P. P. Thomas, Kuttapuzha
Dr. Chacko Thomas
Mr. V. C. Mathew, Kottayam
Mr. D. Gnanam Solomon
Mr. D. Jonathan
Mr. Franklin K. Ebenezer
Mr. Ernest
Mr. J. C. Christopher Rajakumar
Rev. I. A. Soans, Mangalore
Mr. Devasundar

OBITUARY

Miss Prema Moses M.A.B.T., youngest daughter of late Mr. Gnaniah Moses and Mrs. Stella Moses, one of the ardent Conveners of the Madras City Area Committee slept in Jesus on 22—2—1985. A thanksgiving service in her memory was held in the Tucker's Church on 9—3—1985.

May the Lord Almighty give necessary comfort and consolation to her sister Miss Ella Moses and her brother's family.

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I, Rev. JAYASINGH, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Sd.) Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH,
Signature of Publisher.

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Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp 1985

Dates : **20th May — 29th May 1985**

Place : **N.M.S. Mission Field, Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills, North Arcot District, Tamilnad.**

Young people between the age limits of 15 to 25 may attend. (Higher Secondary and College Students).

Kindly pray for the speakers and arrangements.

For further details contact :

Convener,
R.C.S.F. Camp,
N.M.S. Office,
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

N.M.S. Requires Organising Secretaries

for

SOUTH TAMIL AREA, CENTRAL KARNATAKA & KERALA.

Preferably ordained pastors from the Churches may apply.

Kindly contact : The General Secretary,
N. M. S. of India,
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah,
Madras-600 014.

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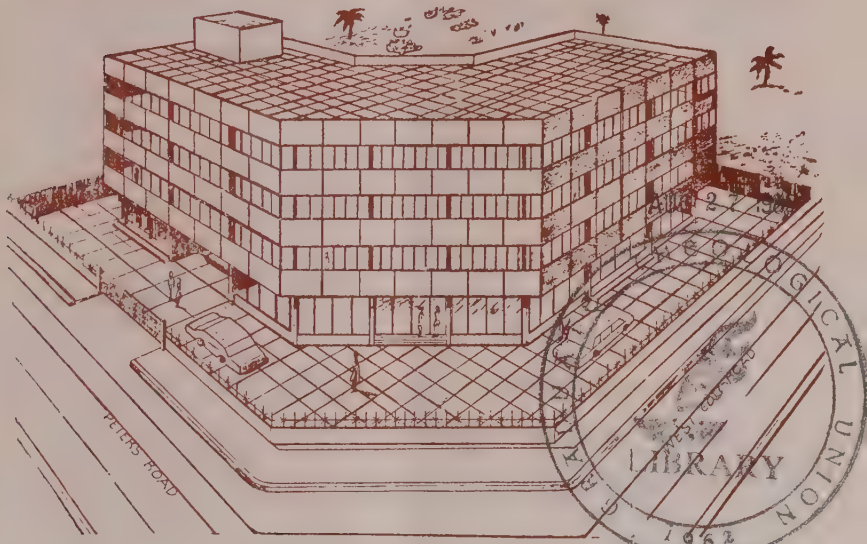
PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING



Birds eye view of the building

The building work is in progress

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REQUEST

1) Please send all your contributions specifying the purpose to the Hon. Treasurer, N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-14, and not in personal names.

2) Please address all the correspondence to the General Secretary, N. M. S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

3) Whenever you change your address, please intimate both the old and new addresses.

The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: **87314**

MEDITATION

Peter in Action (Contd.)

Acts. 10: 1-4

In this meditation, the back ground of Peter's action which follows in chapter 10 is dealt with.

Cornelius—the Centurian :

God's ways are not mans. God has His own way in drawing people towards Him. God makes use of people to bring out His salvation to the world.

Vs. 1 begins with introducing a man who was from the military cadre of the Roman Empire. He was a Centurian. He was a man placed in a responsible position whose name was Cornelius.

Vs. 2—Speaks of his life :

1) **He was a devout man :** He was a godly man, deeply reverent and a true worhsipper of the Living God. He gave importance to God.

2) **One that feared God with his household :** He feared God in all his dealings. Devotion and fear of God have to go together. Love of God and fear of God are like the two sides of a coin. On the one side the authority, the seal, or the emblem of the country is given, and on the other side the value of the coin is given. We say we love God and God Loves us. Good, but on the other side we fail to fear Him. Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. We take it for granted and say "Oh God loves me". This does not mean that we can do anything and everything and Sunday after Sunday ask for forgiveness. We Christians need to fear God. Another thing to observe is that he "feared and with his house". It was not only Cornelius who feared God, but his household too. It means the entire household. The head of the family was able to see the entire household feared God. Quite often we find the father fears God, but the children go astray. Let God help us to have our entire family fear Him.

3) **Gave much alms to the people :** It was a household interested in giving alms, spending their money for others. We find

people in responsible positions take bribes, but here is a family which gave to others from their income—a family which cares for others. They had the concern for others. How much are we concerned about others ? How much have we involved ourselves in the needs of other people ?

4. Prayed to God Always :

A man of prayer. Cornelius was a devotee, a man who feared God with his household, and we find him as a man of prayer. He was a man who sought the face of God. He lifted up his needs to God. He had a hunger for the things of God. He depended upon God and not on his position and the power of the Roman Empire. If Cornelius, the Centurian needed God and depended on God how much more, we need to depend upon Him and pray always and pray through.

5. **Vision of Cornelius :**

Vs. 3 While in prayer in the afternoon (9th hour) he had a vision in which an angel of God came to him with a message. The angel who came to him called him by his name.

Vs. 4. In response to the voice from the angel, it is said "And when he looked on, he was afraid and said what is it Lord". Visions make people to be afraid in the first place and in the second place. Though Cornelius was afraid, he accepted the Lordship of the one to whom he was praying. He does not accept the angel as the Lord. He was in the attitude of prayer and asked the Lord to whom he was praying "What is it". The angel's reply was...that his prayers and alms have gone up to God as memorial before Him. Whatever we do in this world stands as memorial before His presence. Are we doing the things realizing that all those things will be memorial before God.

Psalm 19:14 says "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight..."

Are we accepted by Him ? Have our actions gone up to Him as memorials ?

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Second part of March started with the Personnel Committee Meeting at Madras. On the same day I had to leave for Nagpur to attend the N.C.C.I. Generalbody meeting. At Nagpur I was able to meet the newly consecrated Bishop the Rt. Rev. Vinod Peter and discuss about the N.M.S. work and the possible help which we could receive from them. From there I went to Patna, Via Allahabad to be with the seekers from Bihar Shariff area and to speak at the evening public meetings at the Union Baptist church.

23 participants came together to learn more about Jesus. Some of them are found to be very genuine and expressed their willingness to be baptised.

Due to illness and other reasons Mr. A. H. Wahdi had to resign and steps are being taken to send two evangelists to this area.

From 28th to 31st March the North Indian N.M.S. Wokers Conference was held at the Bible Fellowship Centre in Gorakhpur which was a great blessing to all of us who came together. Their experiences are reported elsewhere in this issue. After several years the N.M.S. was able to have this Conference. Thanks to the Sadhu Sundar Singh Trust Committee for meeting the travel expenses of the participants. The friends in Gorakhpur raised some funds for the food expenses. Public meetings were organised at the St. John's C.N.I. Church at Basharatpur where I preached and our missionaries shared their experiences. Mr. Ranjit Kumar interpreted the messages.

In the second part of the Holy week I was at Madurai. It was a privilege to be back in Madurai and visit a few friends. Mr. I. Sampath Jemes was dedicated as the missionary at the All Saints Church at the evening service on the Easterday. He will be their missionary, Mr. I. Sampath James will be working in Lukkimpur Kerri, U.P.

13 people were invited for interview at Gorakhpur but only 5 turned up and out of them 3 were chosen.

We have entered into another budget year and we look to God for the needed funds for this year to send out more men into the fields.

The Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp will be held at Jamnamarathur from 20th to 29th May this year. We expect college students and youths to join in this camp. The expenses for the camp is met by the voluntary contributions from

friends. Kindly pray and send your contributions for this camp, and send your Children to the camp.

The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building work is progressing. The ground floor roof is terraced and we need to raise atleast nearly Rs. 6 lakhs (six lakhs) to complete the ground floor and first floor work. An appeal is made in this issue of the N.M.I. for your prayerful consideration.

As Christians we have the responsibility to pray for the nation and its leaders. Let us uphold the leaders of our nation in our daily prayers.

We are already in summer, as Mr. Harry Miller writes, "Dog days". I experienced a little bit of it in my travel in North India. Let us pray that all our people in different parts of the country may be kept safely.

May the Risen Lord's presence continne to be with us.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

SEEKER'S CONFERENCE

Top : G. S. with two seekers from Biharshariff. Left sub-post master Right a Doctor. Bottom : Seekers who came for the conference.

A Seekers Conference was organised at the Campus of the Union Baptist Church, Patna from 22nd to 24th of March 1985. Mr. David Morar, Mr. Ranjit Kumar and Rev. J. M. Jayasingh were the leaders. 23 people came in all from Taznipur, Shinther and Biharshariff. There were 6 from Taznipur and they said that there are another 26 people in their village who are seekers.

One of the seekers was a sub-post master who also expressed that there are a few others in his village.

Another seeker was a Doctor from Biharshariff who showed great interest.

FIELD NEWS

Srinagar-Kashmir : Mr. Tahir Masih.

The Evangelist in his report states that his visits to the villages and houses of the Muslim community were undertaken continuously Christian Literatures were distributed, the Christian truths and the gospel of Jesus Christ were explained to them. Due to his visits, about 12 villagers are responding. Kindly pray for these staunch muslims so that they may come to know of Christ in a personal way.

Malligachi : Mr. N. C. Ghosh.

The school work with the gospel work continues to go on peacefully. On Sundays prayers are conducted, and recently the people are not showing much interest and they are becoming hostile. Kindly pray that this situation may change and they may eagerly come to know the love of the Living God; also pray for the school children and the contacts established through them.

Basai M. P. : Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Stanley Mohan, Mr. Yovab Singh and Mr. P. Moses.

Let us thank and praise God along with the evangelists, for the God's sustaining and protecting hand in their ministry.

Pray for the enquirer who is employed in Government and who is eager to know the truth.

Also pray for Ashok of Nayakoda, ministry among the children, and persons contacted by personal evangelism. Kindly remember the disturbances created by the Hindu forces and R.S.S. group and for Vyas who is convalescing after the accident he met with.

Hebri—Karnataka : Mr. Godfrey Soans.

Personal evangelism, and meetings at Khembetto villages and surroundings have been undertaken by the evangelist.

Vasu Nayak, Shekar Nayak, Nagappa Nayak, Narayana Shetty, Vittala Shetty and Laxmi were personally contacted and were given the gospel. Of these some are pursuing Bible Correspondence course. Please pray that by all these ways, the people would eventually acknowledge the living God in their lives. Also pray for the evangelist's health and protection.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mr. R. Stephen Purushothaman.

Let us thank God for the efforts that are being continued at Kulathupuzha. The evangelist reports that 3 Sunday Schools were started and meetings are regularly conducted at Kocharippa and in the plantation areas.

Kindly pray for 5 members of I. C. Colony who are getting themselves ready for baptism on 28—4—1985; also for Thangappan Kani, Rajendran Kani and Prasad.

Jamnamarathur : Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss.

The first day of the month was started at the Lord's feet by observing an all night prayer. N. M. S. Evangelists living near to the centre participated in their prayer fellowship. This was a great chance of encouragement for all the participants, observes the evangelist.

Kindly remember Kannika and Unnamalai our hostel girls for their results in the School Final Exams.

Also pray for Ramaakka, Jeya, Papathi, Chinnakanni. Kullayan, and Ganeshan who have been told about the gospel personally.

Ponnuswamy and Perumal were given New Testaments. Please pray that as they read they might know the truth, also for the people who are preparing themselves for baptism.

Veerapannoor : Mr. Robert John

Inspite of sickness, 13 villages were visited and the gospel were distributed. Visits to villages and to the houses helped them to pray for many people for their sickness and needs So let us thank God, who had answered the prayers.

Kindly pray for the parents who are hessitating to send their children to the school on the charges that their children are taught Bible. Also pray for Kulandai, Lakshmanan, and Shanmugham. Although they are responding, they are bound by the restrictions in the village.

Special prayers are requested for Velainathan who has been suffering from stomach pain.

Thongumalai : Mr. Chandrasekaran.

Thank God for three people possessed with evil spirits who were miraculously relieved and now they are ready to take baptism.

Pray for the baptised converts, and their steadfast growth; also for the new enquirers of the Palampathi and surrounding villages.

Thongumalai field urgently needs a church building wherein the worship could be conducted amidst calmness and serenity.

Gundalathur : Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel.

The ministry is progressing amidst smooth waters, reports the evangelist. So let us thank God for this for the prevailing peaceful atmosphere.

Medical, school work and Gospel continue to evoke good response thereby new contacts being established. Kindly pray that these people may ultimately come to know Christ and His saving grace.

Praise God, for the two persons who were seriously ill and brought for treatment and were cured by His grace and systematic treatment. Pray that these people may realize the healing power of Jesus Christ.

Nadanoor : Mr. G. A. Raju.

Gospel, Medical and educational works are continuing.

Let us praise God with the evangelist for Muthuamma and Kemala for their deliverance and for the testimony at the Sunday Service.

The active participation of the converts Doraiswamy and Raman in the evening outreaches and their testimony has attracted many more to the Lord's fold. The visits of St. John's Church team continue to encourage the evangelist in his work.

Kindly pray for the responsive attitude of Mani, Kumaraswamy, Chinnaswamy, Vellaimuthu and Govindaswamy and also for the problems faced by the converts so that the Lord may strengthen them in times of trouble.

Kattiankudusai : Mr. Devairakkam & family.

Bible teaching in day school and night school is of late not being relished by the parents. This has considerably brought down the attendance. Please pray that this situation may change and the parents willingly send their children to school.

Let us praise God for saving Govindaswamy, our convert from a fatal fall from the tree. Subsequently on the following Sunday his testimony helped him and those assembled to realise the God's protecting hand in their lives.

Isaac of Chinnaveerapatti needs your fervent prayers as he is sick for a quite long period.

Allery : Mr. P. A. Charles & family.

Ministering in and around the villages of Allery field has been a source of blessing. Personal contacts are more helpful to have closer fellowship with each person.

Kindly pray for the individuals and families contacted personally :

for the sick people who were prayed for

for the earnest enquirers,

and for a land and the construction of the church in it.

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudas.

Let us thank God for the responsive attitude of the people towards the gospel in all the areas of Kalyanamanthai field. Seven boys have also given their consent for taking baptism. By incessant prayers, one of our convert's daughters was relieved of demon possession.

At Koilkollai one of our convert's father had a vision in his dream and was healed of his chest pain. Kindly remember him in your prayers.

Inspite of stiff opposition, the land lord's son has accepted Christ by taking baptism. Kindly pray that this should not create unnecessary disturbances in the family. Also praise and thank God for Kuppuswamy, Jeyaseelan, Muthuswamy our converts and some Catholics studying as students at Athipet have formed a prayer group and are praying regularly every week, so that it may continue without any stop. Every Friday fasting and prayer with the gospel work is being done. Kindly pray that it should be carried on regularly and through this witness of natives, others may also know the Lord.

Messers C. J. Dayananthan, C. Devanesan, J. Sampath James.

These candidates selected for North India were undergoing training at the Headquarters and subsequently at Christukula Ashram, Tirupattur on different aspects pertaining to the missionary work.

Now after completion of their training they have been posted to Basai mission field at Madhya Pradesh.

Kindly pray for these people as they enter the new phase of missionary work and environment and that they should be able to cope up with the new situations also. Remember them for their language learning as they have to learn Hindi language, for working among the residents in Basai and surrounding places.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building

The building work in progressing

An Appeal to the Members and Well Wishers of N. M. S.

On page 9 of the issue of January 1984, an article was written about the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building which the N.M.S. planned to construct at the N.M.S. head quarters.

Present Position :

The construction work commenced in August 1984 by turning the first soil by Mr. Saeed Rallia-Ram, the Executive Director of the World Vision of India. The construction work is progressing

and the roof for the ground floor is terraced. The ground floor will be ready for use within a couple of months. Though our plan is to construct a 4 storey building, for the time being we are undertaking the construction of the ground and first floor only. The foundation is however laid for 4 storeys.

Purpose : This building will be given for rent to the banks or offices and the income will be used for the development of the work.

(Pictures see front page) — The top picture is the birds eye view of the building—The bottom shows the progress of the work.

Estimate : The total estimate for the ground floor and first floor is Rs. 9 lakhs.

Your participation in construction of the building : This building will be known as the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building. The fund is raised from friends and members for the memorial building in memory of their beloved ones.

1) We request the friends and members of the N.M.S. to donate Rs. 1000/- in memory of their beloved ones who have gone into eternity. The names of those who donate Rs. 1000/- each will be displayed on the donor's Roll of Honour.

2) A marble plaque will be placed in the building in memory of their beloved ones, who donate Rs. 5000/- or more.

3) We also request you to contribute any amount you would like for the purpose.

Your donations may kindly be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. specifying the project.

General Secretary.

KAGAL—MAHARASHTRA

Picture top : Miss Vasanthakumari David talking to the ladies at Koginoli village
Bottom : Houses in Koginoli.

Our lady missionary, Misss Vasantha Kumari David lives in Kagal which is on the main highway from Bangalore to Bombay. Kagal is close to Kolhapur. Miss David is regularly visiting 7 villages. She has to travel by bus to the villages. When I visited Kagal she took me to 3 villages namely Koginoli, Sangha and Pattankudi. Villages are quite big. The population in each village will be around 10,000. The people are very simple and eager to know about the love of Jesus. Only constant visits can bring people to Christ. There are a few Christians in Koginoli and Sangha. The village Pattankudi is at the border of Karnataka and Maharashtra. This village has a special attraction. A few girls from the village were dedicated to the Yellamma Temple and they are allowed to be prostitutes. The parents have dedicated their children like this. There are 6 young girls from this village who dedicated for such life. Our missionary is in touch with them and is trying to bring them out of such bondage. During our visit we met only one of them. If some of these girls accept Jesus and come out of their professions some sort of rehabilitation needs to be planned, because some new jobs need to be found for their livelihood. Miss David needs your fervent prayers.

NEEDS

N.M.S. of India needs Evangelists for unreached areas and Organising Secretaries for North East India and Maharashtra, Apply to the General Secretary, N. M. S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

NEWS

THE NORTH INDIAN N.M.S. WORKERS CONFERENCE

The North Indian N.M.S. Workers Conference was held at the Bible Fellowship Centre Gorakpur U.P. from 28th to 31st of March 1985. Most of the North Indian Workers came together, but about 6 could not be present due to various reasons. I took up most of the sessions and Mr. Ranjit Kumar interpreted. Miss Johnson and Rev. Y. Samuel of the Free Baptist Church also brought the messages.

The Gorakpur branch of the N.M.S. helped in hosting the Conference by raising funds locally. A reception was accorded by them in which the Principal of the St. Andrews Degree College spoke by saying suitable words of encouragement.

(It is noteworthy, that the N.M.S. took up the responsibility of running this college when the C.M.S. wanted to close down the St. Andrews College in Gorakpur).

At the reception I presented the needs of the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building and 2 friends from Gorakpur contributed Rs. 1000/- each.

At the end of the Conference our people went on rejoicing and a few expressions are printed below.

"Though I am with the N.M.S. for the past 15 years this is the first time a Conference of this type is organised ..... God's spirit worked throughout the Conference and I tasted God's love in different ways and I have taken a new decision to go forward in His work".

"This Conference has given a spiritual unity of the workers..... and felt the Holy spirit moving among us at the Conference."

"I am very much pleased to have fellowship with one another. The Bible studies were encouraging".

"I felt the Holy Spirit working in the Conference" (This is a common statement of almost all the participants). It helped to have more concern for the lost souls".

"Messages, Bible Studies, Sharing times, very much touched me. The field reports strengthened me".

"It helped to know about what the other worker is doing in his place.....I want to be honest before God and do my best for Him in bringing many souls for Him".

"It helped me to know what the N.M.S. expects from me and how it is concerned about us who are in the field. It enabled me to focus my attention towards the work entrusted upon me. The spirit of God pointed out our weaknesses".

N.B.: Such Conferences need to be organised every year and you are requested to pray for it.

Such another one needs to be organised for the people in the South. It needs your prayer and support.

General Secretary.

NORTH TAMIL AREA REPORT

The promotional work of N.M.S. had its renewed beginnings in the Nilgiris District, the frequent visits since January have helped much in this regard.

The visit of Sikkim missionaries Messrs. V. T. Abraham and A. B. Lepcha to the South for the dedication of Mr. A. B. Lepcha at Madurai followed by the deputation work at Coonoor, Ooty and Kotagiri was of considerable help for the people to know about the work of N. M. S. in various areas in India.

At the evening meeting held on 14th March, at Coonoor in St. John's Church, Rev. Arulraj's intiative and co-operation in this meeting and also arranging another meeting at Nonsuch estate at C.S.I. school was also of great help. Mr. Arulraj' Headmaster and teachers reciprocated their gesture by assuring us of their prayers.

At Kotagiri, meetings were arranged at the Melithen village at the instance of Rev. Jeyapaul followed by a meeting at the C.S.I. Middle School with the co-operation of Mr. J. Samuel and Mr. Bhaktan Theagarajan and their words to pray and support the ministry was of great encouragement.

At Kotagiri Public School N.M.S. was presented to the inmates and staff of the School, the warm fellowship and support

extended to us by Mrs. Bright and members present, helped us to renew the acquaintance.

Accommodating us inspite of great constraints in his parsonage by Rev. Henry Samuel needs mentioning.

At Ooty on March 17th after introducing N.M.S. in most of the Churches in Ooty town, it was followed by a meeting at 3-30 P.M. at C.S.I. Wesley Church, presided by Rev. Abel. He emphasized the need of missionary work and its urgency. The participants decided to have weekly prayers for the work of N.M.S. on every Saturday barring the second Saturday. It also requested Mr. J. Samuel to co-ordinate locally in a honorary level for the work of N.M.S. at Ooty.

During the series of visits at Ooty, the co-operation and encouragement extended by Rev. Benjamin and Rev. Prince Peter accommodating us in their parsonages and facilitating our stay needs its due thanks. The support extended by the members of St. Stephen's at Ooty for the work of N.M.S, and help of Mr. Raja accompanying me to the respective houses is highly appreciated.

The efforts of Mr. Nanu Prabakar at Coonoor Mr. J. Samuel at Ooty, and co-operative spirit of Mr. Bhaktan Theagarajan at Kotagiri and many others in the above areas have really helped N.M.S. to have its firm footing.

DAVID SURESH,
Organising Secretary.

Songs that speak - Part 18

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE

Song by : **William R. Featherstone**

Music by : **Adoniram J. Gordon**

"We love him because he first loved us" (1 John 4: 19).

Most of the songs found in Sankey are sung sermons or confessions of faith. The tunes blend with the theme of the songs so well that Sankey is considered as a unique hymnal in the

Christian world. The main theme is salvation. What will happen to one who has accepted the redeeming grace of Jesus? Featherstone tasted the love of Jesus. His heart was filled with joy and outflowed his feelings in the form of this beautiful hymn "My Jesus, I love thee."

Stanza—1

MY Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine,
For thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious redeemer, my saviour art thou;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

My Jesus—what a privilege it is to claim Jesus as one's own! My Jesus—because he saved me; My Jesus because he loved me—My Jesus because he gave me life eternal! How can we describe the feelings of a redeemed soul? The author, by a fitting start, amplifies the theme of the whole song— "My Jesus I love thee."

I know thou belongest to me. I can claim him as my own. It is really a thrill to own something that is rare and unique. I have a piece of solidified mercury which is really a rare commodity. It does not have good appearance. It resembles a rusty ball-bearing but to me it is precious because it is rare and above all it was given to me by my friend. These things will perish. But I treasure in my greatest possession and that is Jesus. He is mine! Eternity will echo that he is mine! Is he yours too?

He is mine and so I belong to him. I have him as my master and redeemer. So I have to please him in every way possible. I renounce all my sinful worldly ways for his sake. I love him more is day. I will love him more as days go by. I will always love him.

Thomas was a doubter and refused to believe the resurrection of Jesus. When Jesus revealed himself to him he exclaimed 'My Lord and my God'. That is redemption. The author tasted that redeeming grace and composed this immortal song expressing the feeling of Thomas—the ex-doubter and the present bastion of faith.

Stanza—2

I love thee, because thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

I love him because he first loved me. Because of that love he shed his blood on calvary's tree. He paid the ransom and redeemed my soul. He wore the crown of thorns in order to make me wear the crown of life. What can I do in return for that divine love? I love thee Jesus—I love thee now.

In the novel "A tale of two cities" Charles Dickens portrays the character of the hero. When his friend was imprisoned and condemned to death, the hero Sidney Carton goes to the prison house, drugs his friend into a swoon puts on himself the prisoner's clothes, and sends his friend out in his own dress. The friend regains consciousness and finds himself free but by that time his friend Carton was beheaded. The name of Sidney Carton becomes sanctified name in his family. Jesus did the same for you. He took your place on the cross and set you free. Do you love him now? Do you realise that the redeeming sacrifice of Jesus has bestowed on you life eternal? If you realise it you will love him more than anything else.

Stanza—3

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
And praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

It is said that all the gold and silver accumulated will slip between the bony fingers at death. It is said that a famous monarch cried in his death-bed "millions for an inch of eternity". But his millions could not purchase even a minute of additional life. When the famous actor David Garick showed Dr. Johnson, his palacial building with all its art treasures, the wise master exclaimed "Ah David all these make one difficult to die. See the contrast. When D. L. Moody died he said "This is my coronation day!" Jesus makes death sweet. There is no death for a believer. If you believe in him you have life eternal. If you have tasted that grace you too will sing his praise in life and in death.

Stanza—4

In mansions of glory and endless delight
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown of my brow,
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

MEDITATION

Peter in Action (Contd.)

Acts. 10: 1-4

In this meditation, the back ground of Peter's action which follows in chapter 10 is dealt with.

Cornelius—the Centurian :

God's ways are not mans. God has His own way in drawing people towards Him. God makes use of people to bring out His salvation to the world.

Vs. 1 begins with introducing a man who was from the military cadre of the Roman Empire. He was a Centurian. He was a man placed in a responsible position whose name was Cornelius.

Vs. 2—Speaks of his life :

1) **He was a devout man :** He was a godly man, deeply reverent and a true worhsipper of the Living God. He gave importance to God.

2) **One that feared God with his household :** He feared God in all his dealings. Devotion and fear of God have to go together. Love of God and fear of God are like the two sides of a coin. On the one side the authority, the seal, or the emblem of the country is given, and on the other side the value of the coin is given. We say we love God and God Loves us. Good, but on the other side we fail to fear Him. Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. We take it for granted and say "Oh God loves me". This does not mean that we can do anything and everything and Sunday after Sunday ask for forgiveness. We Christians need to fear God. Another thing to observe is that he "feared and with his house". It was not only Cornelius who feared God, but his household too. It means the entire household. The head of the family was able to see the entire household feared God. Quite often we find the father fears God, but the children go astray. Let God help us to have our entire family fear Him.

3) **Gave much alms to the people :** It was a household interested in giving alms, spending their money for others. We find

people in responsible positions take bribes, but here is a family which gave to others from their income—a family which cares for others. They had the concern for others. How much are we concerned about others ? How much have we involved ourselves in the needs of other people ?

4. Prayed to God Always :

A man of prayer. Cornelius was a devotee, a man who feared God with his household, and we find him as a man of prayer. He was a man who sought the face of God. He lifted up his needs to God. He had a hunger for the things of God. He depended upon God and not on his position and the power of the Roman Empire. If Cornelius, the Centurian needed God and depended on God how much more, we need to depend upon Him and pray always and pray through.

5. **Vision of Cornelius :**

Vs. 3 While in prayer in the afternoon (9th hour) he had a vision in which an angel of God came to him with a message. The angel who came to him called him by his name.

Vs. 4. In response to the voice from the angel, it is said "And when he looked on, he was afraid and said what is it Lord". Visions make people to be afraid in the first place and in the second place. Though Cornelius was afraid, he accepted the Lordship of the one to whom he was praying. He does not accept the angel as the Lord. He was in the attitude of prayer and asked the Lord to whom he was praying "What is it". The angel's reply was...that his prayers and alms have gone up to God as memorial before Him. Whatever we do in this world stands as memorial before His presence. Are we doing the things realizing that all those things will be memorial before God.

Psalm 19:14 says "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight..."

Are we accepted by Him ? Have our actions gone up to Him as memorials ?

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Second part of March started with the Personnel Committee Meeting at Madras. On the same day I had to leave for Nagpur to attend the N.C.C.I. Generalbody meeting. At Nagpur I was able to meet the newly consecrated Bishop the Rt. Rev. Vinod Peter and discuss about the N.M.S. work and the possible help which we could receive from them. From there I went to Patna, Via Allahabad to be with the seekers from Bihar Shariff area and to speak at the evening public meetings at the Union Baptist church.

23 participants came together to learn more about Jesus. Some of them are found to be very genuine and expressed their willingness to be baptised.

Due to illness and other reasons Mr. A. H. Wahdi had to resign and steps are being taken to send two evangelists to this area.

From 28th to 31st March the North Indian N.M.S. Wokers Conference was held at the Bible Fellowship Centre in Gorakhpur which was a great blessing to all of us who came together. Their experiences are reported elsewhere in this issue. After several years the N.M.S. was able to have this Conference. Thanks to the Sadhu Sundar Singh Trust Committee for meeting the travel expenses of the participants. The friends in Gorakhpur raised some funds for the food expenses. Public meetings were organised at the St. John's C.N.I. Church at Basharatpur where I preached and our missionaries shared their experiences. Mr. Ranjit Kumar interpreted the messages.

In the second part of the Holy week I was at Madurai. It was a privilege to be back in Madurai and visit a few friends. Mr. I. Sampath Jemes was dedicated as the missionary at the All Saints Church at the evening service on the Easterday. He will be their missionary, Mr. I. Sampath James will be working in Lukkimpur Kerri, U.P.

13 people were invited for interview at Gorakhpur but only 5 turned up and out of them 3 were chosen.

We have entered into another budget year and we look to God for the needed funds for this year to send out more men into the fields.

The Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp will be held at Jamnamarathur from 20th to 29th May this year. We expect college students and youths to join in this camp. The expenses for the camp is met by the voluntary contributions from

friends. Kindly pray and send your contributions for this camp, and send your Children to the camp.

The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building work is progressing. The ground floor roof is terraced and we need to raise atleast nearly Rs. 6 lakhs (six lakhs) to complete the ground floor and first floor work. An appeal is made in this issue of the N.M.I. for your prayerful consideration.

As Christians we have the responsibility to pray for the nation and its leaders. Let us uphold the leaders of our nation in our daily prayers.

We are already in summer, as Mr. Harry Miller writes, "Dog days". I experienced a little bit of it in my travel in North India. Let us pray that all our people in different parts of the country may be kept safely.

May the Risen Lord's presence continne to be with us.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

SEEKER'S CONFERENCE

Top : G. S. with two seekers from Biharshariff. Left sub-post master Right a Doctor. Bottom : Seekers who came for the conference.

A Seekers Conference was organised at the Campus of the Union Baptist Church, Patna from 22nd to 24th of March 1985. Mr. David Morar, Mr. Ranjit Kumar and Rev. J. M. Jayasingh were the leaders. 23 people came in all from Taznipur, Shinther and Biharshariff. There were 6 from Taznipur and they said that there are another 26 people in their village who are seekers.

One of the seekers was a sub-post master who also expressed that there are a few others in his village.

Another seeker was a Doctor from Biharshariff who showed great interest.

My Jesus! Thou hast given me life eternal. In spite of my drawbacks thou hast forgiven me and restored me to thy sonship. For this I will adore thee. I will sing thy praise in heaven. I have mansions in heaven. I have endless delights there. Oh my Jesus I love thee!

Jesus has promised that there are mansions in heaven for believers. No earthly mansion can ever be compared to the eternal mansions in heaven. When a believer was in coma he was removed to the hospital. When he regained consciousness he muttered the words "I see mansions". His unbelieving son interpreted the "mansion" as the hospital building. I tell you this with all assurance that you have a mansion in heaven if you accept Jesus as your Saviour. A famous saying goes like this.

"Life is given to seek God
Death is given to find God,
Eternity is given to possess God".

If you find Jesus you have found eternity. All the wealth of heaven will be yours. Won't you accept Jesus now?

Rev. Dr. Jeans I. Jeyachandram.

OBITUARY

Mr. M. Brahmananda Rao, retired Station Master of Kreestu Yesu Nilayam, Adambakkam slept in Jesus on the 12th December 1984 leaving behind his wife, son and daughter.

Mrs. Elizabeth Joshua mother of Miss Leela Joshua, our ex-Organising Secretary passed away on 19th February 1985 leaving behind four daughters.

Your prayers are requested for the necessary comfort and consolation to the bereaved families.

The Rev. Dr. A. C. Abraham

The Rev. Dr. A. C. Abraham of Hyderabad went to be with the Lord on 31st March 1985 at the age of 85.

He served in the N. M. S. as Executive member and Vice-President for several years. He also served as Hon. Joint General Secretary of the Society during the years 1960 and 1961, when the Society was facing financial crisis. It was during this time the work in Nepal, Puri and Jawadhi Hills was started. Dr. A. C.

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Abraham was the Chief Malaria Officer, Government of A. P. Malaria Department.

He served the Medak Diocese of the C.S.I. as Hon. Presbyter.

He leaves behind him his wife, children, grand children and great grand children.

We praise God for his life and pray for the bereaved ones.

RURAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE FELLOWSHIP CAMP 1985

Date : **20th May — 29th May 1985.**

Place : **N.M.S. Mission Field, Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills, North Arcot District, Tamilnad.**

Theme : **YOUNG PEOPLE AND JESUS CHRIST.**

Young people between the age limits of 15 to 25 years, may attend. (Higher Secondary and College Students)

Kindly pray for the speakers and arrangements.

For further details contact : Convener,
R. C. S. F. Camp,
N.M.S. Office,
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

ERRATA

The Volume Number from January should be noted as January, Vol. No. 1, February Vol. No. 2, March Vol. No. 3. and April Vol. No. 4, instead of the number which appeared on the National Missionary Intelligencer.

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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah Madras-600 014 Phone 47814

MEDITATION

Peter in Action (Continued)

Acts. 10: 9-23

Peter in Prayer Vs. 9 b. Peter was staying with Simon who was a tanner. Though he lived with another man, he kept up the prayer time. In the book of Daniel we find Daniel praying to God thrice a day even at adverse circumstances (Daniel 6: 17). To any Christian, prayer is absolutely necessary as he needs air, water and food for survival. Man needs to look to God. In prayer, man worships God, presents his needs and listens to the still small voice of God. Peter has set times for prayer. Even at the lunch hours (sixth hour) he went for prayer. It is stated, he went up upon the house-top. It used to be an open space, or the terrace of the house, where he could be alone to look to God.

Peter in vision: Vs. 10-16. As stated in Vs. 9, it was sixth hour, which was the lunch time and he was hungry. The food was being made ready, but Peter fell into a trance. There he had a vision as we see in the passage. Peter was a jew and it was very difficult for him to reconcile with the fact that even God loved the non jews. This was revealed repeatedly in his life. Though he was filled with the power of God, he found it very difficult to reconcile with the non jews and accept that the entire world is in the plan of God and in His salvation. Hatred and prejudices were in his mind. The old jewish ideas were strong and stagnant at the bottom of his heart. It had tested the patience of God. God wanted to teach him a new lesson. He had to realize that the nations in the world are made by Him and God loved this world and that is why He sent His own beloved and begotton son into this world (John 3: 16). What ever Peter saw in the vision were unholy to him. But repeatedly he was told that God made them clean and Peter was asked to accept.

Peter in Confusion Vs. 17-a. Having seen the vision and heard the command to kill and eat all what was set before him, Peter was troubled and confused. He began to think, what would be behind these things. God reveals His plans to His chosen people, if they are in relationship with Him. He never hides His plan from His people. To know His plans in our lives, our lives need to be in line with His heart. As we read in the Bible, repeatedly we find God revealing His plans to His own chosen ones. We need not be troubled or confused when we see visions or even some dreams. He prepares ourselves to face them and to be watchful.

Peter was sought. 17. b-18. While Peter was troubled over the vision, the men who were sent by Cornelius were making enquiries about Peter. Those men came to the house of Simon and wanted to find out Peter. Cornelius was properly instructed by the angel to invite Peter and where to find him. He had sent the men as per the instructions given to him They come to the right place, because they followed the instructions.

Peter was instructed. Vs. 19-20. While the men were seeking Peter at the house of Simon, the spirit of God informed and instructed Peter the following things.

1. Three people are seeking for you
2. You rise up
3. You get down
4. You go with them,

When the spirit of God instructs the people, He instructs them very clearly giving no place for any doubts. The above instructions were given to the servant of God who was staying in a particular place, probably in a place where he got every comfort, Simon was a businessman and who would have looked after Peter very well. He was instructed to move out to reach the unreached.

Peter in obedience 21-23. When the people came in search of him he could realize the plan of God and he went with the people whom Cornelius the centurian sent. Peter told them 'I am he whom ye seek'. He revealed his identity to the seeking men. Peter made enquiries about their visit, having known the matter. Peter called them inside the house to stay with him and next day he went with them in obedience to the guidance given to him. He made himself available to the seeking people.

May the spirit of God speak to us as we mediate over this portion about Peter.

He lives,

He speaks,

He guides,

He expects us to obey His instructions.

—J. M. Jayasingh.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Loving Greetings to you all in the precious name of Jesus.

R.C S.F. Camp

The Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp at Jamnamarathur went on very well and there were 28 participants from different parts of Tamilnad and Kolar Gold Fields. Out of the 28 young people, 14 took decisions to go for full time ministry. Praise God for their decisions and you are requested to pray for them. They are all college students. An employed young man brought along with him four young men and his desire was to make the four young men to take decision for the Lord but the Lord spoke to him through the life of David Livingston and challenged him for full ttme ministry.

Baptism :

Seven new converts were baptised at Jamnamarathur on 26th May 1985. The Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, Bishop in Vellore witnessed the baptism and conducted the communion service. He stayed with the campers for 3 days. Please pray for the new converts.

Re-Opening of the Schools:

The schools and colleges are re-opened for another academic year and our children who go to schools need our prayers. Our children may be encouraged to give thank offerings to the church and missionary societies. They have to be taught about giving while they are yet young.

Finance :

There were some difficulties in sending the salary to the staff last month but the difficulty was overcome by taking a loan from another account. We need your fervent prayers and support.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building

I have written a few lines about it else-where in this issue and we need your earnest support and prayers.

Confirmation Service :

God willing, we will have the confirmation service for the converts in Jawadhi Hills on 4th August 1985. The Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah the Bishop in Vellore will conduct the same. Those who would like to join us for this programme may kindly contact the General Secretary.

Prime Minister :

Let us praise God for bringing back our Prime Minister and his team safely from his foreign tour. Let us continue to uphold him in our prayers.

Arcot Theological Seminary:

The Arcot Theological Seminary in Vellore which was closed in 1966, was re-opened on 21st of June 1985. The inaugural function was held at the Serminary. Congratulations to Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, Bishop in Vellore and the committee members.

Prayer :

Your earnest prayers are requested for the field missionaries and evangelists of the Society, for their safety, children's education and spiritual enrichment.

May the living Lord be with you,

With prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING

It was reported in the May issue of the National Missionary Intelligencer that the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building construction is in progress. We have almost completed the ground floor work. The work had to be suspended for nearly 1½ months for want of funds. The Standing Committee which met on 12th June took up the matter and with much hesitation, but trusting in the Lord decided to move further to complete the ground floor work and begin the work for the 1st floor. It also decided to find proper tenants for the ground floor.

During my visit to a few friends, they expressed that they would like to contribute Rs. 1000/- in memory of their beloved ones, but not able to give it in a lumpsum. Such friends may contribute the amount in instalments. You may kindly contact the General Secretary for details.

This project is a national project and we assure you that this building will not be utilized for office purposes but to use the income to send out more men into the unreached areas and increase the pay of the present staff.

May we have your valuable prayer and purse for completion of this project.

A Glance to Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp—1985.

The Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp of 1985 had its solemn start in the calm and serene settings of Sandalwood grooves of Jawadhi Hills, North Arcot District, Tamilnad.

The Inaugural session was featured by the crisp address by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh followed by hoisting of the Camp Flag by the Assistant Manager of the Indian Bank at Jamnamarathur.

Although nature spared us to have a peaceful start it was rather a short lived one. As the first session started for the Campers the nature accompanied us with its thunders, strong winds, and heavy downpour. It was quite a fitting welcome for the Campers to the Camp by bringing down the temperature drastically. Inspite of these interuptions the General Secretary gave his key note address based on the theme 'Young people and Jesus Christ' which was followed by certain announcements for campers, the do's and dont's for their stay at the campus.

Prof. M C. John from Tiruvalla with his vast experience among the youth was a challenge to campers with his systamatic devotions and Bible studies which enabled the participants to commit themselves to Christ and realize their spiritual condition. The presence of Rt. Rev. Sam Ponniah, Bishop of Vellore Diocese for a couple days was of great encouragement.

Mr. K. Chandy, Kerala Organising Secretary took the whole time of outreach and sharing which really challenged the youths with his unquenching burden for the perishing souls. The other leaders included Mrs. Jayamathy Jayasingh. Rev. Jayasingh taught the biographies of both native and foreign missionaries.

During the closing phase, the campers were challenged by series of the above programmes and 14 out of 28 participants who came from all parts of Tamilnad and Kolar Gold Field were able to dedicate their life time for Lord's ministry. This feature was rather unique in the history of R. C. S. F. Camp. The group discussions, complimenting Bible studies and missionary biographies lead the participants to a definite goal.

The local missionaries in the vicinity helped the camp with their labour, love and service. The mess-in-charge Mr. & Mrs.

Aruldoss with their team served the campers with good and tasty food. Kindly pray for the campers who made decisions and also for others who were able to know the Lord personally in their lives.

May the God continue to guide in their lives.

DAVID SURESH,
Organising Secretary,
North Tamilnad.

JAWADHI GIRLS HOSTEL

Realizing the need of educating the tribal girls in Jawadhi Hills, a hostel was started on 2nd August 1961 with four girls. During 1984-85 academic year 20 girls lived in the hostel.

Rooms were built on the top of the dispensary building, and dedicated on 26th May 1985 by the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponnaih, the Bishop of Vellore Diocese and the Vice President of the N.M.S. of India. There are pending works, such as white washing, painting, flooring, which need to be undertaken immediately. Utensils worth of Rs. 2000/- have to be purchased. In order to complete the above work and purchase the utensils, we need Rs. 5000/- Friends and well wishers are requested to come forward to help.

We have admitted 28 students for the current academic year. Some of them are supported by individuals, institutions and churches. Yet we need to find funds for other girls. It will cost Rs. 80/- p.m. to maintain a girl in the hostel. We would very much appreciate if these girls could be supported by you, or your church or Womens Fellowship or Institution.

It is decided to celebrate the hostel day on 2nd August 1985 at Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills. If you like to participate on that day, you may contact the General Secretary for further details.

A RARE OPPORTUNITY BY K. CHANDY

It was my esteemed privilege to be invited by the Most Rev. Geevarghese Mar Osthathios, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Syrian Church to speak at a special meeting of the students of the St. Paul's Bible School, Mavelikara.

On 15-5-1985 the assertion day celebration a meeting for the inmates of the St. Paul's Bible School was conducted at the School Auditorium with the Metropolitan in the chair. After hymn and prayer the Metropolitan kindly introduced me and asked me to talk about the work of the N.M S. of India in general and indigenous way of its work in particular. I was given enough time to elaborate on the various fields of the N.M.S. I also mentioned about the hostel project for the tribal girls.

Metropolitan has very kindly extended invitation to visit the school again. He has given Rs. 150 as his personal gift for supporting two girls for a month in the girls hostel.

During the past 80 years the N.M.S. was not successful in getting the co-operation of the Orthodox Syrian Church though repeated attempts were made during the early days of N M S. and I am proud of getting this small opportunity to address in one of their meetings. In this Bible School there are about 60 students getting trained to be the missionaries of the Churches all over India. I hope that the Orthodox Syrian Church will co-operate with the N.M.S. in the proclamation of the gospel in India in future.

URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS:

(1) For the hostel day celebrations at Jamnamarathur on 2nd August.

(2) For the converts retreat at Jamnamarathur on 3rd and 4th August 1985.

(3) For the needed funds for the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building and for proper tenants to take over the ground floor on rent.

PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING WORK

The Building Construction work had to be stopped for about 1½ months for want of funds. The Standing Committee meeting held on 12th June 1985, decided to continue the work and requested the General Secretary to make a special appeal for funds for the project. Friends and members are requested to pray and support this worthwhile project.

★★★

For Leaders of Indian Missionary Sending Organisations

If you are a committee member, board member or an office bearer such as area secretary, promotional secretary, organising secretary, magazine editor etc. of an indigenous Indian missionary sending agency, you are invited to attend a

SPECIAL STUDY CONFERENCE

at

K. V Cherian Memorial Hall, Navajeevodayam Centre, Tiruvalla During Aug 23 (Friday Afternoon) to 25 (Sunday Afternoon) 1985. Dr. Paul Hiebert, Fuller Seminary School of Missions,

Pasadena, California.

Dr. George Samuel, Navajeevodayam Centre, Tiruvalla, and office bearers of India Missions Association will serve as conference leaders.

Contact for further details : Registrar,
Navajeevodayam Study Conferences
P.O. Box. 16, Tiruvalla-689101.
Kerala.

JABALPUR N.M.S. NEWS

A Convention was organised from 30th May to 2nd June 1985 in Jabalpur by the Jabalpur N.M.S. Branch. The Rev. O. J. Wilson introduced the N.M.S. Mr. Ranjit Kumar and Rev. R. R. Vyas brought Lord's message. The messages were based on the theme "Evangelism—Need of the hour". All presbyters of the main line churches involved themselves in the programme. Thanks to every one who participated.

P. S. CHARLES,
Hon. Org. Secretary for M.P.
and Rajasthan.

FIELD NEWS

Khamhong—Sikkim : Mr. Daniel Bal

An outburst of epidemic claimed thousands of lives in a short period, but now it is controlled. Pray for the bereaved families who have lost their kith and kin. The continuous visits has helped us to establish a rapport even among the staunch Hindus and Buddhists.

Praise God for a Brahmin, who accepted Christ. The youths of Baran Basti and Sangh areas are responsive but they are not able to come out openly for Christ due to their community and religious restrictions. A new Sunday School was started and 15 children attending regularly. Kindly pray for the evangelists health and safety and specially for the responsive youths and the Brahmin who accepted Christ.

Rhenopak—Sikkim : Mr. & Mrs. Bir Sing Lepcha

Praise God for enabling the evangelist to establish contacts in all the villages in and around Rhenopak. Ministry through personal contacts, literature and outreach meetings is carried on even to the borders of Bhutan. Pray that these people may realise the love of Jesus and surrender their hearts to the living God.

Special meetings are conducted for youth on every Wednesday. Pray that the young people may be won for Christ and through them many people would come to Christ.

Kagal—Maharashtra : Miss Vasantha Kumari David

A Youth and Seekers Camp was arranged at Kagal from 6th to 9th May 1985 at Nipani. Twenty one young people attended the conference, out of them 8 were non christians. Nine of them which includes 5 Hindus came to know Christ personally and committed themselves to the Lord. The timely help of Mr. Ashok Amolik, Scripture Union at the conference sessions was of great help in conducting the Camp. Kindly pray for these individuals who accepted Christ, for their spiritual growth and for the other seekers.

Malligachi—West Bengal : Mr. N. C. Ghosh

The work in West Bengal continues inspite of all oppositions, Pray that a congenial atmosphere may dawn in this area and people may realise and accept the good news of the living, God. The educational work, ministry through literature and contacts are

carried on but bringing an individual to the Lord's fold is very difficult. Fervant prayers are solicited for these materialistic and hard hearted people.

Lukkimpurkeri—U.P. : Mr. & Mrs. Sampath James.

Lukkimpurkeri is a new centre, there the work was started from the first of May 1985. Mr. & Mrs. Sampath with their small child, went to this North Indian town from Tamilnad. They have the working knowledge in Hindi. Yet they need to learn to communicate the Gospel to the people and learn to live in this area, where there are cultural differences.

They have started establishing contacts with various people. They visited a hospital where they found a woman in serious condition. Her husband was sitting by her. Mr. Sampath wanted to pray for her, but the man objected and told not to pray. Mr. Sampath James has asked for prayer for M/s. Misra Ranne and Hariram Singh. It is reported that the latter at a long conversation rebuked and cursed the evangelist for his continuous persistence. Kindly pray for the above people and for Mrs. C. P. Misra, who is ailing for the past 3 years. Mrs. Sampath and child were sick due to climatic changes. Thank God for the healing hand which was upon them. Special prayers are requested for their safety.

Chakarpur—M.P. : Rev. R. R. Vyas

The Rev. R. R. Vyas' working area was divided into two, The villages beyond Babina contonement has to be covered by Mr. Stanley Mohan and his team, having the centre at Basai. The villages up to Babina contonement from B.H.E.L. will be covered by Rev. R. R. Vyas. As reported earlier the elbow of his right hand was fractured and he is better now and moves around to contact the villages. Please pray that the Lord may strengthen his hand. He was invited to speak at the convention organised by the Jabalpur N.M.S. Branch.

Hebri—Karnataka : Mr. Godfrey Soans

During the month of May he had concentrated on the villages, namely Onikal, Handhikal and Kanyana. He has asked us to pray for Sanjeeva, Babina Bai, Gopal, Kamath and Kaluchetty. These people are eager to know about Jesus Christ.

Pentakotta—Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi

Rev. Sanjeevi has reported that the converts who went to different places for fishing are coming back to Puri as the season for fishing is fast approaching. The Church attendence has in-

creased and new seekers are coming to the worship service. It is at this time new people are brought to the Lord.

Nolayasahi—Puri : Mr. Daud Saguar

Mr. Daud writes, "Two new women enquirers are attending our prayer meeting", and has requested for prayer for these two people. He has made a special request that there may be fruits in his work.

Basai—U.P. : M/s. R. Stanley Mohan
P. Moses
C. Devanesan
J. Dhayanandhan

Matters for prayers :

1. In Basai a group of blacksmiths are showing interest in the gospel.
2. Mr. Ram Awathar Singh is a seeker and he may take the decision to follow Jesus.
3. Mr. Thomar a post graduate and a Headmaster of a School came and made enquiries about "OM" and "Holy". After the conversation he has expressed his willingness to follow Jesus Christ.
4. A Sub-Inspector of the area is interested in the gospel.
5. A blindman named Bajalal needs Gods healing touch,
6. A cabinman (Muslim) is interested to the word of God.
7. For the Tamils who are in the Mathatilla Dam and Railway signal errection work. They are contacted.
8. A Lawyer came to the residence and asked for gospel portions.
9. Mr. Ram Pratab Srivathan, a staunch worshiper of his own gods, has started reading New Testament.

On 29th May we visited a village called Makkadari, where we had open air meeting. A Pandit (Brahmin) criticised and chanted against our preaching and quoted some portions from the word of God. In that situation God used Prem Chand Singh and he spoke from his own experiences. The Pandit withdrew from his attack. The crowd clapped hands for the comments made by Mr. P. C. Singh. At the Martha Tilla Dam, while preaching a young man objected and said you are preaching the gospel with foreign money and abused; but many people from the crowd supported us".

Kandili—Tamilnad : Dn. & Mrs. Thiraviam

Mrs. Thiraviam requests our prayers for the following persons :

(1) Miss. Selvi a young college student who has no faith in God.
(2) Jayalakshmi, Kanthi, Kanchana, Kamatchi.
(3) Vaijayanthi is told the gospel repeatedly,

Dn. Tiraviam attended the Summer School of evangelist at Bangarapet and he has benefited much. After returning from the Summer School, he and his family visited a young girl, who was sick and prayed for her. The Lord healed her. Pray for Mr. Sundaram and his brother, who are from a strong Hindu house and who would like to follow Christ. Their own family and circumstances do not allow them to take a decision.

JAWADHI HILLS :

Jamnamarathur : Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss

During the month they have visited 10 villages contacting new people and distributed tracts. Your prayers are required for Miss Ranjini who took baptism about 2 years back and she still suffers from the evil spirit. For the past 3½ years she is under the control of epilepsy.

Mrs. Chandra and Mrs. Unnamalai wanted to take baptism during the camp time. Because of certain local problems particularly they do not want to leave their homes. Please pray for these two women.

Every Monday people are contacting at the market place the Evangelist from Veerapanoor, Athipet, Gundalathur and Kalyanamanthai.

Thongumalai : Mr. & Mrs. Chandrasekaran

Your prayers are invited for the ailing evangelist. After the Summer Evangelism Training Programme at Bangarapet he has been laid up with Jaundice. At present he is improving but needs your incessant prayers, so that he may start the work afresh with His vision and vigour. A Suuday School programme is also planned. Kindly pray for the starting of it and children to be benefited by it.

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Mr. M. Jesudoss reports that he was able to visit 19 villages and contact about 300 people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Prayers are reguested for the following people:

1) Mr. Gopal from Chinnakottai who decided to follow Jesus and worship Him alone.

2) An educated lady of Paramanantha village listened the Gospel message and she is reading the New Testament.

3) While he was praying at Veeravalasu, a woman who was sitting nearby fell down suddenly. She was possessed with evil spirit.

4) At Krishnapuram while he was going to visit a believer a few people invited him to speak more about Jesus. They listened to the Gospel messages attentively and they all gladly knelt down and prayed.

5) Our land owner Mr. Annamalai's son used to walk while sleeping and by prayers the Lord touched him and now he is having peaceful rest at night. Pray that Mr. Annamalai may realise the love of Jesus and accept Jesus. Mr. Annamalai's sons have already accepted Christ.

6) A young man who is a leper accepted Jesus sometime back and he was baptised on 26th May during the R.C.S.F. Camp at Jamnamarathur.

Gundalathur : Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel.

A lady who was possessed by the Evil Spirit was relieved of the possession. Pray that she may come to the Lord.

There are a few people who would like to take baptism. Please pray that the family members and their relatives may not take any objections. God willing they will be baptised during August 1985.

Athipet : Mr. & Mrs. O. James Meyyan.

During the month of May 1985 Mr. Meyyan was able to contact 148 people in 14 villages. About 75 students are coming to learn, read and write at the night school. Please pray that these boys who attend the night school find Christ in their lives.

Nadanoor : Mr. G. A. Raju.

Mr. Raju reports that the members of the St. John's Church Fort Vellore, came to Nadanoor and helped them in the work. St. John's Church has trained 3 women health workers and sent them back to their own villages to help the villages in the Medical work. They are also giving training for women in tailoring. From 25th to 27th free eye operation was conducted by the Christian Medical Col ege Hospital doctors. About 130 patients were treated and the patients were given spectacles. There are

visitors from Chad Hospital Baghayam who came to visit the area and learn about the work of the N.M.S. and the needs of the people in this area. Your earnest prayers are requested for the work in this area and many may come to know the Lord through this social work which is carried on in this area.

Allery : Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles.

The family had undergone trial and some tribulation during the past month due to sickness of Mrs. Charles and children. They need your fervent prayers. This is one of the most difficult centres to be reached. For anything to be purchased they have to come down to Vellore. Please uphold them in your prayers.

Kattiyankudisai : Mr & Mrs. Devairakkam.

A student called Doraisamy of Kuppusanavur went to the forest area to do some work. While returning back he found a cobra standing before him to attack. Since he was very much afraid of cobra, he closed his eyes and prayed to Jesus to come and help him. When he opened his eyes the cobra was not there in front of him. And he testified that the Lord Jesus saved him from the cobra. Pray that his family members may realise the power of Jesus.

During the month Mr. Devairakkam has visited about 10 villages and spoke about the love of Jesus.

Veerapanoor : Mr. & Mrs. Robert John.

Mr. Boochi's wife is possessed. Mr. Boochi expressed if Jesus deliver her from the evil spirit he and his wife will accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour. Please pray for them.

On 26th of May six people were baptised from Veerapanoor. Please pray that these may stand firm in their faith in the Lord Jesus. Mrs. Robert John is in family way and she is expecting a baby within a month. Please pray that the Lord may give her a safe confinement.

Mr. Robert John has reported that while he was coming to Madras he was involved in a bus accident and he was saved miraculously from destruction.

ORGANISING SECRETARY : Mr. J. P. Ashwal, Bombay.

During the past 3 months (March, April, May) Mr. J.P. Ashwal has contacted the Tamil churches in Bombay namely Bandup, Thane and Kailash Nagar at Thane. He also visited the old branches in South Karnataka and formed new branches. He visited Bangalore, Mysore, Holenarasipura, Chennarayapatna, Bage, in Hassan District, Madikeri in Coorg and Chintamani in Kolar Dist.

OBITUARY

(1) Mr. L. D. Anandu of Udupi, Karnataka, who was the Hon Secretary of Udupi N.M.S. Branch, passed away on 4th May 1985 at the age of 74, leaving behind his wife and five children.

He served as a Sanitary Inspector in his home town and later he went to work in the Gulf area. After his retirement he served as Hon. Secretary of the N.M.S. Branch Udupi Inspite af his ill health, he rendered yeoman service both by his generous financial contribution and zealous co-operation for the cause of evenge. lism.

(2) Mrs. Ramani Thomas, wife of Dr. N. R. Thomas of Madras had her home call on 8—3—1985. She was 73 years old. Dr. Thomas writes about her : "She was a devoted wife and dear mother for nearly 25 years, did a lot of active work in the cause of the church (Arcot Lutheran Church) when we were in Pennadam in South Arcot Dist. taking active interest in N.M.S. and Women's Fellowship. I thank God for a fruitful life of my dear wife !"

May the eternal God comfort and console the member of the above families in their bereavement.

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ANNUAL SALE

The Madras City Area Committee will be conducting the Annual Sale to raise funds for the N.M.S. work on 15th August 1985 at:

The Ewart Matriculation and
Higher Secondary School,
93, Dr. Alagappa Road,
Madras - 600 084.

Chief guests : **The Rt. Rev. H. S Thanarrj**
and
Mrs. H. S. Thanarrj

Members and friends are kindly requested to pray and participate.

FEBA RADIO invites applications for the post of Public Relation Officer in FEBA-I. Please for further details write to

The Director,
FEBA India,
P.O. Box 2526
Bangalore.560 025.

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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

Peter in Action (Continued)

PETER AND CORNELIUS

Acts 10:20-27

Peter to Cornelius :

Peter could think of him only as a jew and he had the difficulties of accepting a non-jew. Jews would never have a non-jew as their guest and will not go and stay with them. Because they considered every non-jew as unclean they could not have fellowship with them. In obedience to the heavenly vision which Peter had at Simon's house, Peter took this bold step of moving out from his jewish 'shell'. Vs. 23 is a clear indication of breaking the barriers which were in his mind. Barriers in our lives will break down only if we allow the spirit of God to work in us and if we obey Him.

Vs. 24a indicates the next step which Peter took. He went to Ceasar to meet the man who sent the word for him. He stepped down from his prejudiced attitude for the sake of the one who called him. He broke the barriers which were a great stumbling block in his life by going to the house of a non jew.

Cornelius to receive :

Vs. 24b indicates "Cornelius waited". He was there in his own place with great expectation of receiving Peter. A waiting soul will never be turned out His hopes and aspirations will be fulfilled. Those who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength. (Is. 40.31). These who wait patiently will receive the blessings. "As Peter was coming in". Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshipped him" Vs. 25.

The man who waited with hope and expectation had the privilege of receiving Peter. We find the following.

a. Cornelius met him

b. fell down at his feet

c. worshipped him.

Cornelius met a prejudiced minded man. The centurian of the Italian band knew very well the mental attitude of a jew towards a non jew. Cornelius was bestowed with authority from the Roman Empire. He had every right on a jew living in or coming in his area. The spirit of God met these two in their own respective places and brought them together. Breaking down the barriers and organising the meeting between the two was the work of the Holy spirit. A young minister had a close relative. Because of property the family was separated and treated each other as enemies. The young minister was very much worried about the situation in the family. The spirit of God spoke to the young minister to meet the other family. In obedience he went to meet them, but he was rejected. He tried again, but in vain certain unhappy incidents took place in the other family and again the young minister was compelled within to meet the family which rejected him. People in the village advised him not to go but he went. He was received and the fellowship was regained. There was no man in between, but the spirit of God.

Cornelius, a man, with authority met Peter This was possible because of the Love of God and because Peter was willing to go a step down in obedience to the heavenly vision.

Cornelius fell down at his feet. When Peter came in obedience to the heavenly vision, the spirit of God had prepared Cornelius to step down from the authority which he had on a jew. A man bestowed with authority from the Roman fell down at the feet of Peter a jew. This was possible because both were under the control of the spirit of God.

Falling down at the feet of another is part of the tradition. When some one accepts the greatness of another, he falls down at the feet of the one whom he considers greater. This was a tradition in Palestine and we see it in different parts of Asia. Touching the feet of a Guru is a common thing even in our country. After the wedding when the bride is brought to the bridegroom's house she will be received by the mother of the bridegroom and the bride will fall down at the feet of her mother-in-law and touch her feet. This tradition is fast changing and people try to imitate the western tradition of embracing each other.

It is stated in Vs. 25, last part. "worshipped him". This was not approved by Peter Vs. 26. But Peter took him up, saying, stand up; I myself also is a man." Here we find, Peter opposed worshipping him :

Peter took him up

Peter demanded to "Stand up"

Peter accepted him as equal

A man can humble himself before another, but he has no right to worship a man. Worship belongs to God. Man must worship God and God alone. Everyone in the world is expected to worship his creator God who sustains the world and who gave His only begotton Son for the redemption of the world. Man cannot be on par with God. No man should be given the place of God and no man should accept the worship also. Even the angels refused to be worshipped. Peter crossed the barriers and accepted Cornelius as equal to him.

Peter talked with him
Peter went in
Peter found many people | Vs. 27.

Meeting face to face made Peter to communicate with Cornelius. The eommunication gap was narrowed down and they faced each other bringing them to the level of accepting each other. We can talk to some one even if we do not like them. But Peter did not stop there, but he 'went in'. Peter was willing to go inside the house. When Peter let the spirit of God to work in his own life he allowed himself to go 'in' with Cornelius. When he went 'in', he found many people. If only we Christians, Christian leaders, allow ourselves, to go 'in' we will be able to find many people waiting to hear the word of God.

There are millions waiting to hear the word of God. In order to reach them we need to break the barriers which are 'within' ourselves and move 'in'.

Let us not strengthen the barriers but allow the spirit of God to break them.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We thank you, for your valuable prayers and the contributions which you are sending for the missionary work of the N.M.S. Your timely help has helped us repeatedly. We would like to have your continuous help.

Plane Crash :

Everyone of us was shocked about the Air India Plane crash, which took away the lives of 329 people. May the Lord Jesus Christ consloe and comfort the bereaved ones. This warns us to be very careful and be prepared for any worst thing in the world. Terrorism, robbery, murders, hatred have increased in the world. All because of the wickedness of human heart. Let us continue to pray that there must be peace in the world and realize the value of human life.

Madras City Area Committee News :

1. A few members of the M.C.A.C. met together for prayer on the night of 8th July 1985 at the Headquarters office. They also conducted missionary meetings at the C.S I. Ulaga Meetpar Alayam in Royapuram. Mr. Prakash Yesudian was the Speaker.

2. A Fellowship meeting for the Pastors in the City of Madras was called and about 40 Pastors came together on 10th July 1985 at the Tamil Methodist Church. The Rev Justin N. Harris, the Pastor of the church delivered God's message. The message was based on the church in Antioch.

3. All of us are looking ahead to see the Annual Sale conducted by the Madras City Area Committee, to raise funds for the work of the Society. The leaders and members of the Area Committee are trying their best to contact more people and churches for their co-operation. They need your prayers, participation and purse. If you are in the City you are kindly requested to come and participate. Those of you who are from the City are requested to do your best to promote and involve in the Sale. The sale will be on 15th August 1985 at the Ewart Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Madras 84.

Delhi Area Committee :

The Delhi Area Committee had election and new leadership has emerged and I trust that they will do their best for the Lord. This area committee is at the capital of our country. (See page 16).

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building :

Construction work for the first floor has started, but we face the problem of finance. We need a minimum of 3 lakhs within the next two months to pay the bills and complete the work. A few of the evangelists of the N.M.S. have promised Rs. 1000/- each and they will pay it in instalments. Dear reader, will you pray and consider this? A picture of the present position is seen in page 15.

Sending more People :

Sending more people to the fields is the main concern and we may interview a few during the next month.

Baptism :

A few people are being prepared for baptism in Jawadhi Hills and in Kulathupuzha. This may take place in the near future. Please pray for the new converts.

Organising Secretaries :

Mr. David Suresh, the Organising Secretary for North Tamil Nadu is stationed in Coimbatore from 1st July 1985.

Mr. Stephen Thiagamony is appointed as Organising Secretary for a part of North India from 1st of August 1985. He will be stationed in Jhansi. These two need our prayers as they launch in contacting people in their respective areas.

Consultation of the Missionary Society :

A consultation of the Missionary Societies of the Churches was held at Charal Mount from 26th—28th of July 1985 sponsored by the N.C.C.I. It was conducted by the N.M.S. A brief report is found elsewhere in this issue.

Thought over rules :

For the past few weeks my mind is overruled by the following verse. "Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of hosts" Zach. 4:6. Our power and our abilities will not be useful at all. Let the spirit of God be our strength and power in our day to day life and in proclaiming His word.

May the Lord be with you all and keep you under His protection.

With prayers and best wishes,
Yours in His Service,
(J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

FIELD NEWS

Ludhiana—Punjab : Miss Salina Rakha

She writes "I had some hindrances in preaching during the period of unrest. Contacted people at their doors and spent time with the sorrowing families, and met the patients in the hospitals". Distribution of tracts and gospel portions is the major part of the work. "While preaching at the market place a Nepali young man approached and asked me about Jesus. He was explained about the love of Jesus and he accepted Jesus Christ. His name is Prakash. His 4 brothers are also contacted. Two backslidden brothers were brought to the Lord."

1. Pray for the new enquirers and for the backslidden friends who have come back.

3. We need to pray for peace and tolerance in Punjab and the people may realize the love of God.

Mallihabad—U.P. : Mr. & Mrs. Mahesh Chandran.

90% of the people in Mallihabad are of muslim community. The work in this place was started very recently. Mr. Mahesh Chandra writes "Mr. Infar Khan came to me and asked several questions about the Godship of Jesus Christ and I explained to him, but he gave me a warning not to preach the gospel in that area". There are a few other prominent men who came and talked about all the matters concerning Jesus, but they are negative".

One Mr. Yadav was interested in the gospel and he was beaten by his people. Pray for :

1. They may get a house to live in that area or in the nearby place.

2. Those people whom Mr. Mahesh comes in contact may find Christ as their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Lukkimpur Kherri—U.P. : Mr. & Mrs. I. Sampath James.

"I met the people at the bus stand, railway station, and market places. These people are from different villages. People

believe in the Vedhas of Hindu religion and are idol worshippers. I had the opportunity of meeting the people who were going for their festivals and circus. Some say that this is the first time we hear about Jesus Christ. Sikhs and Sardhars are the two groups of people who object the gospel in this area. I am trying to get permission to proclaim the gospel in prison".

Prayer Request :

(1) Permission to be granted to proclaim the Gospel in prison.

(2) Sikhs and Sardhars may accept Jesus.

(3) Everyone in Lukkimpurkherri may find Christ and become Christians.

(4) Special prayers are requested for the evangelist Mr. Sampath and his wife Prema and son Appaji. Their son fell down from the bicycle and had a deep cut on the forhead. Pray that the Lord may heal the wound.

Kota—Rajasthan : Mr. Barun Kumar Samui.

Mr. Barum reports that he visited 17 villages during the month and he writes "people are adamant and refuse to purchase any booklets or gospels, and there are very few people who show any interest in the gospel. About 100 persons are contacted in a new village. Pray for Mr. Barun who is very much discouraged, because of the attitude of the people in that area and pray for the people who are interested in the gospel.

Chakarpur—M.P. : Rev. Ravi Ratan Vyas.

He reports that the people in and around Chakarpur do not know the love of Jesus. Many children in this area are suffering from polio attack. Pray for the newly started ministry in this area.

Basai—M.P. : Messrs. Stanley Mohan, P. Moses, Dhayanandan, Devanesan, P. C. Singh and Mr. & Mrs. Yovab Singh.

They have reported that "we praise God for the opportunities we had to tell the goodnews to many people who had no opportu-

nity to learn about Jesus and His love. In the village Lahara, the villagers gathered together to hear the gospel message. Many expressed their willingness to hear the gospel. One of them asked "What should I do to accept Jesus Christ?" When we went to Kilosi village we found a wedding was going on and we tried to contact the people who have come for wedding. Meanwhile we were invited there and they requested us to proclaim the gospel to those who were there over the mike. Praise God for this opportunity".

A villager who was met at Jhansi bus stand expressed that the people in his village, Urinager, are listening to the gospel since one year only. Major Jaggith Singh was contacted and he invited us to his house and gospel was presented to him.

Pray for the above contacts and for Mr. Ramsingh, who is a student of law and for Urinath of Lakkanpur village.

Puri—Orissa : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi, R. V. Ramana, Mrs. Mariamma Kotteswara Rao and Daud Sagar.

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi has reported that the Sunday School, Cottage Prayer meeting and the Sunday Services are being conducted regularly. Due to rain the fishermen could not go for fishing and the fishermen are suffering for want of food.

This year they were not able to distribute any tracts during the car Festival in Puri because of opposition. Regular visitings have been made to the non-Christian homes. "We face opposition from non-Christians". Please pray that the people who are opposing the preaching of the word of God may accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. Pappachan & Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

While contacting the Tamils in the plantation area we had the privilege of presenting the gospel to Mr. Senthan and his family members. They show much interest in the gospel. We continue to contact them so that the whole family may come to Jesus. While contacting people personally one Mr. Perumal expressed his willingness to know more about Jesus and requested our prayer for him.

There are 10 people who are being prepared for Baptism. Kindly continue to pray for these people, the work among the Kanees and the Tamils.

Veeranamalai—A.P. : Mr. C. Velmurugan.

Mr. Velmurugan writes that he visits the Lambadi and Vedar villlages and contacted 160 persons. He has asked us to pray for the following persons.

Messrs. Raju, Ratnam and Shivaji who want to know more about Christ and to accept Him as the Lord and Saviour. Mr. Ratnam expresed that he has accepted Jesus Christ as His Lord and Saviour. Mr. Velmurugan's health has been affected and he has gone on annual leave. Kindly pray that the Lord may strengthen him to do his best among the Lambadies.

Kandali : Dr. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam.

They informed that Dr. Kanagaraj has started an English Medium Nursery School in Kandali. "There are about 40 children studying in that school. We are given the opportunity of telling the good news to the school children. As we meet the children we have an opportunity of meeting their parents. Dr. Kanagaraj is being prepared for Baptism. His mother is under the spell of of witch craft for the past 15 years. You are kindly requested to pray for her. One Mr. Mani from Pattathuri village who is a teacher in another village was under the bondage of certain bad habits and he expressed that he has no victory. We prayed for htm and we encouraged him with the word of God. By God's Grace he got victory. He is also being prepared for Baptism. His two brothers have also shown interest in the gospel. We continue to work here in the midst of opposition from the R.S S. friends and from the ethiests.

JAWADHI HILLS :

Kattiyankudisai : Mr. & Mrs. P. Devairakkam.

Your prayers are requested for the following converts : Abraham, Doraisamy, George Vellaiyan, Paul Vellaiyan. They have joined the forest Departmental High School in Jamnamarathur.

Pray that these 3 young converts may witness their Lord Jesus to the students who are studying with them. Mani and Chinnasamy of Palampattu and Govindasamy from Kavithikudisai expressed to their parents that they are going to take Baptism but their parents have frightened them and told them not to take Baptism. Please pray that the Lord may speak to the parents. These young boys' faith may be strengthened in Jesus Christ.

Mr. Doraisamy of Melkupsanavur has accepted Jesus; Please pray for him. His wife also accepts Jesus as her Lord and Saviour. Your prayers are also requested for the village heads of Melkupsanavur and for the people who oppose the gospel.

Nadanur — Mr. G. A. Raju

He writes as follows:

"During the month I have visited 17 villages and met about 250 people individually. I had the privilege of sharing the gospel to the officer of the Silk Worm production section of the Forest Department. One Mr. Papannan an aged man of Chinnur village asked me why I didn't go earlier to talk about God, if so all of us would have become Christians. Please pray for this old man. Our own converts in Nadanur area have different temptations and trials, particularly the village people are forcing our converts to take part in their festivals. Please pray that these converts may stand firm in their faith.

Thongumalai — Mr. & Mrs. A. Chandrasekaran

Pray for the following:

1) Swaminathan, Krishnan, Chinnasamy—they passed their 7th Std. and they continne to study in 8th Std. These three young people are new Christians.

2) Doraisamy of Chinnur who is a convert has got a job because of our prayers.

3) Mr. Narayanan, Branch Postmaster was saved miraculously from a danger. Pray for the village head of Chinnur who is interested in the gospel.

4) The Nattan of Pallanpattu (Nattan means Head of 10 villages) tells more about Jesus and he has also requested us to pray for him.

5) Mr. Periya Gounder who took baptism during the month of March is discouraged because of the family problems and he has stopped reading the Bible and praying to Jesus. He says Jesus is not able to deliver him from his difficulties and family problems. Pray that this aged man may come back to the love of Jesus.

6) Two other families are being prepared for Baptism and they need your prayers.

Allery — Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles.

People from 4 villages have requested the evangelist to go over there regularly to tell about Jesus and to pray for the sick and to teach good things to their children. Cottage prayer meetings were held in 7 houses. We teach the children in the Day School. There is no other school except our N.M.S. School for this area".

We are trying to get a few cents of land alienated to put up the house-cum-school shed. A muslim who has come for business in this area has taken strong objections to the village head and to the Tahsildar not to permit the Christians to have any school there. Please pray that the Lord may enable us to get the land alienated.

Veerappanoor — Mrs. & Mr. S. Robert John.

Mr. Robert John reports that he has visited 15 villages and presented the Gospel messages. People listen to the gospel message with great eagerness. God has healed some people from their sickness. The evil spirits from a woman were driven out and the family expressed that they believe in Jesus. Please pray that the people who were healed and got the deliverance from the evil spirits may accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour and to follow Him in their day to day life. The wife of Mr. Joseph Pattu who took Baptism in the month of May has cancer in her stomach and she is admitted in the Ambur hospital. Please pray that the Lord may heal her completely and their faith may be strengthened in Jesus.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert John had a new baby boy. Let us praise God for the safe confinement.

Gundalathur — Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel.

Kindly pray for the following :

1) A few people who are preparing themselves for Baptism on 4th August 1985.

2) Pray for the night school students and the evangelistic work in the villages. The centre needs 15 Bible and 15 New Testaments.

3) Our Evangelist's house which is a thatched shed is in poramboke land and we are trying to get the land alienated. Please pray that the alienation work may be completed very soon.

4) Pray for the people who come together for worship.

Kalyanamandai — Mr. M. Jesudoss.

1. Some converts in Kalyanamandai and surroundings are looking for jobs outside.

2. The Lord has started the revival in this area and it may continue and many may accept Him as their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

3. A few young people have expressed their willingness to take Baptism during the month of August. One of the converts Mr. Jayaseelan has dedicated himself for full time ministry. Pray that the Lord may guide him in the right way.

Jamnamarathur — Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss

Pray for the following :

1) Mr. P. G. Chinnasamy who is reading the New Testament.

2) Mr. Duraisamy and Yasoda of Vallikottai have shown interest in knowing more about Jesus.

3) for Unnamalai a widow aged 60 years who has nobody to care for her.

4) for Unnamalai from Komutteri village who has three children and her husband deserted her and married another woman. Please pray that this family may be united and came to know about the love of Jesus. Pray for the inmates in the hostel, for the needed Musical instruments in the centre such as one side drum for open-air meeting one set of Dolak (Dapella) and one Megaphone.

COIMBATORE BRANCH NEWS

In complying with the decision of Standing Committee in posting Mr. David Suresh, Organising Secretary, for North Tamilnad with his haadquarters, at Coimbatore he assumed office at Coimbatore on July 1st 1985.

To commence the work, on Monday 8th July 1985 for the inauguration of the office a meeting was arranged.

The North Tamil Area Office premises was inaugurated and dedicated for His Glory. It gave the opportunity for many Presbyters of various denominations and elders to participate and meet at this common gathering.

The opening prayer was offered by Rev. Philip Mullery, followed by opening the office premises by Dr. M. P. Jesudasan, President Coimbatore N.M.S. Branch. Rev. James Devadoss, Vice President Coimbatore Diocesan Council dedicated the office. He observed that the N.M.S. work has been carried on in Coimbatore, of course in relatively slower pace. This he felt, was due to the non-existence of an Organising Secretary in this area. So it's right and proper for the Standing Committee of N.M.S. to have posted the Organising Secretary locating his headquarters at Coimbatore, since the place being an important one where the response would be forthcoming if they are approached on proper lines.

He praised the Organising Secretary expressing his high appreciation for his commitment for doing Lord's work when he is young and exhorted that this office, which is now dedicated today will go a long way in improving its activities in North Tamil Nadu specially Coimbatore. The Organising Secretary while speaking explained in detail the need to activise the work of N.M.S. at the promotional level at Coimbatore.

Elders Messrs. M. J. Sargunam, Dr. Pitchai Robert, Dr. Manoharan, Rev. Jesudasan, Miss March felicitated the Organising Secretary and assured of their support for improving the activities of N.M.S. in all possible manner.

Rev. Emmanual T.E L.C. Presbyter read the Bible. Mr. Samuel Gnanakadatcham, welcomed the participants. In his vote of thanks Mr. Bobby Samson Treasurer, N M.S. Branch thanked all the invitees for having graced the function.

PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING

Dear friends,

Only a very few of you have responded to the appeals given for the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building fund and I am thankful to you. As per the decision of the Committee construction work for the first floor resumed and the picture below shows the

progress being made. We hope the first floor work will be completed by the early part of October if we get sufficient funds. It needs atleast 3 lakhs immediately to complete the construction work. We are trying to get some advances from the parties who are interested in taking over the place for rent.

How you can help in the work ?

1. Every one of you may pray that the Lord may send us the sufficient funds for the work.

2. You may contribute Rs. 1000/- in memory of your own beloved ones or as your contribution.

3. You may contact your friends who would be able to contribute Rs. 1000/- or more or less.

A friend who was remitting Rs. 100/- each for the last 10 months wrote to me. "Dear Jayasingh, I have remitted Rs. 1000/- since you need funds I promise to pay another Rs. 1000/- and a cheque tor Rs. 100/- as the first instalment is enclosed".

A few members from the Bishop Chitamber's family sent Rs. 5400/- and little more for a plaque to be put up. Bishop Chitamber was one of the founders of the N.M.S.

Some of the field staff of the N.M.S. have promised to pay Rs. 1000/- each. They are paying Rs. 100/- or Rs. 50/- each per month.

What about you? Would you like to have a share in this project. Friends and members have contributed for the project under two headings. 1. Workers Relief Endowment fund and 2. Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building fund. Both put together as per the decision of the Committee. This was mooted as workers relief endowment fund in 1977 and changed as Platinum Jubilee Memorial Fund in 1980. A complete list of contributors will be published in the next issue.

Please contact the Head Quarters office for details. We need your co-operation.

DELHI AREA COMMITTEE

The N.M.S. Area Committee in the Capital City of our country had their re-election and a new group of leaders have emerged and they are as follows.

President: Mr. B. K. Singh

Secretary: Mr. R. Nathaniel

Treasurer: Mr. Daniel Yunas

Vice-Presidents: 1. Mr. I. F. Franklin, 2. Mr. E. S. Peters

Members: Messrs. S. M. Lal, N. J. Cousin, A. Brown, J. Mall, Mrs. E. D. Yunas, Mrs. I. R. Singh, Rev. M. L. Bhatnagar.

The Delhi Area Committee has raised only approximately about Rs, 5000/- or a little more for the work. May the Lord

enable the new leaders to contact every Christian in Delhi and raise more prayer support and financial support for the work of the Society. I wish and pray that the God Almighty be with them in their efforts for the extension of God's Kingdom, in reaching the unreached.

A Consultation of the Missionary Societies of the Churches

A consultation of the Missionary Societies related to the N.C.C.I. was held at Charal Mount in Kerala from 26th—28th of June 1985. Most of the participants were from the major denominational churches. The programmes was sponsored by the N.C.C I. and conducted by the N.M.S. of India. The most Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church was present on the 1st day and helped the group in discussions and stressed the need for evangelism.

"The Metropolitan Geevarghese Osthathios was the chairman of the consulations. He guided the groups in the pannel discussion.

Representatives from various churches presented reports about their missionary efforts. The Rev. Bose Meyyappan Chairman of the India Missions Association was present throughout the consultation.

Rev. Dr. A. P. Athiyal, Professor, in Bishops College, Calcutta and Rev. Vasantharaj Albert, Director Church Growth Research Centre were the resource persons. The Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, General Secretary N M S. was the convener. Mr. K. Chandy N.M.S. Organising Secretary for Kerala made all the arrangements at the centre and helped in the sessions.

The conclusions at the panel discussions, will be published after it is approved by the N.C.C.I, General Secretary. As convener I am thankful to Mr. Mathai Zachariah N.C.C.I. General Secretary for making it possible to have the consultations.

J. M. JAYASINGH,
Convener.

OBITUARY

(1) The Rev. Henry Otten had his home call on 22nd February 1985. He was a missionary among the muslims in Kerala and was based at Wandoor where he designed and built a hospital. He served the people in India, particularly through the Lutheran Church Let us thank God for his life. Let us also remember the bereaved members of his family, particularly his wife and the ministry left behind. Mr. Henry Otten was one with me in the work of N.M S. in prayer and support, because he was concerned about lost souls.

(2) Mr. E. W. Camfort of Delhi went to be with the Lord on 21-1-85. He served as a teacher and later in the Railway Service Commission. He was very active in the church and Y.M.C.A. He was a regular contributor to the work of the N.M.S.

(3) Mr. A P. Brown of Delhi had his home call on 15th January 1985. He worked in the ministry of Defence, Government of India. He was the Treasurer of the All India Christian Forum which took out a procession against the Freedom of religion bill. He has left behind a daughter and grandson. He was a regular supporter of the N.M.S. "Your prayers are requested for the bereaved members of the family".

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year 1984—1985

RECEIPTS

Area Receipts

Madras	1,31,077	90
North Tamil Area	16,761	15
Mid Tamil Area	37 177	00
South Tamil Area	35,643	00
Coimbatore & Nilgiris	8,521	00
Salem & Dharmapuri	7.493	95
Madurai & Ramnad	20,718	00
Kerala	44,029	91
Karnataka	35,360	65
Punjab	790	00
U.P.	17,605	85
M.P.	15,980	00
A.P.	11,341	00
Orissa	1,872	00
Rajasthan	1,861	00
Maharashtra	876	00
Bombay	53,619	55
Bihar	2,610	00
West Bengal	3,783	00
Delhi	6,042	00
Other Areas	10,069	00
Overseas	12,704	00

Other Receipts

Project Support	9,840	40
Birthday Gift	12,750	70
Thanks Offering	2,741	20
Interests of F.D's	52,899	37
Committees	3,544	55
Christmas Cheers	17,343	80
Jawadhi Hostels	8,871	50
Jawadhi Building	6,657	00
R C S.F, Camp	1,808	00
Life Membership	5,170	00
Guest Room	1,040	00
Donation for purchase of Cycles	3,683	00
Telephone	54	15
Field Income	1,711	45
Prayer Meetings	617	65
Bihar Ministry Work	2,015	00
Mis. Income	1,990	35
Deputation	736	70
Workers Meetings	6,109	00
Thro' Workers :		
Church Collection	1,120	85
Medical	2,058	65
Person Contribution	1,823	00
	6,20,522	28

EXPENDITURE

Salary	3 62,232	59
Postage	11,645	10
Contingencies	4 213	29
Electricty	2,017	70
Telephone	1,789	30
Taxes	3,660	76
Stationery	4,477	92
Printing	61,437	78
Christmas Cheer	16,075	00
Collection Expen.	8,381	18
Repairs	8,224	11
Other Payments to workers	14,946	22
Mis. Expenses	2,844	85
Guest Room	813	40
Workers Meeting	612	10
Deputation	4 525	35
Committee and Conferences	31,049	45
P.F. Contribution	10,877	30
Purchase of Cycles	1,894	00
Jawadhi Hostel	8,743	55
Jawadhi Buildg.	15,000	00
T.A. to Genl. Secretary	3,074	70
T.A. to Org. Secy.	15,494	26
T.A. to other Workers	15,846	44
Mr. K. V. Cherian Memorial Fund	1,000	00
	6,10,876	35

M. D. SELVARAJ, Hon. Secretary.

Regd. No. M. 609
Licence No. 23 Licenced to post without pre-payment

BUDGET for 1985—1986

RECEIPTS

Area Receipts

Madras	1,50,000 00
North Tamil Area	50,000 00
Mid Tamil Area	40,000 00
South Tamil Area	40,000 00
Coimbatore & Nilgiris	11,000 00
Salem & Dharmapuri	10,000 00
Madurai & Ramnad	[illegible]
Kerala	90,000 00
Karnataka	[illegible]
Punjab	[illegible]
U.P.	[illegible]
M.P.	25,000 00
A.P.	[illegible]
Orissa	15,000 00
Rajasthan	10,000 00
Bombay	[illegible]
Bihar	[illegible]
West Bengal	15,000 00
Delhi	15,000 00
Others	[illegible]
Gujarat	10,000 00
Project Support	50,000 00
Birthday Gift	[illegible]
Thanks Offering	[illegible]
Interest on F.D.	[illegible]
Committees	5,000 00
Christmas Cheers	[illegible]
Jawadhi Hostel	[illegible]
Jawadhi Building	[illegible]
R.C.S.P. Camp	5,000 00
Life Membership	[illegible]
Guest Room	2,000 00
Telephone	[illegible]
Field Income	1,000 00
Prayer Meetings	3,000 00
Mis. Income	[illegible]
Church Colln. thro' worker	2,000 00
Medical ,,	2,000 00
Personal Cont. by workers	2,000 00
	[illegible]

EXPENDITURE

Salary	6,80,000 00
Postage	[illegible]
Contingencies	[illegible]
Electricity	[illegible]
Telephone	[illegible]
Taxes	[illegible]
Stationery	[illegible]
Printing	[illegible]
Christmas Cheers	[illegible]
Collection Expenses	10,000 00
Repairs	5,000 00
Other Payment to workers	15,000 00
Guest Room	[illegible]
Workers Meeting	1,000 00
Deputation	5,000 00
Committees & Conferences	15,000 00
P.F. Contributions	10,000 00

Jawadhi

Jawadhi Hostel	10,000 00
Jawadhi Hostel Buldg.	15,000 00
Travel	[illegible]
Contingencies	[illegible]
Literacy Campaign	1,000 00
Meetings	2,000 00

All India General

Audit fees	[illegible] 00
Bank Charges	500 00
Annual [illegible]	1,000 00
Aid for propaganda	5,000 00
Travel on leave by workers	6,000 00
Charity	[illegible]
Legal Expenses	500 00
Property, Urban & Sewerage Taxes	5,000 00

Travel Allowances

Genl. Secretary	[illegible] 00
Org. Secretaries	15,000 00
Other Workers	5,000 00
President, Vice President, Asso. Genl. Secy. & Hon. Treasurer	3,000 00
	9,50,000 00

M. D. SELVARAJ, Hon. Secretary.

Edited and published by Rev. J. [illegible] at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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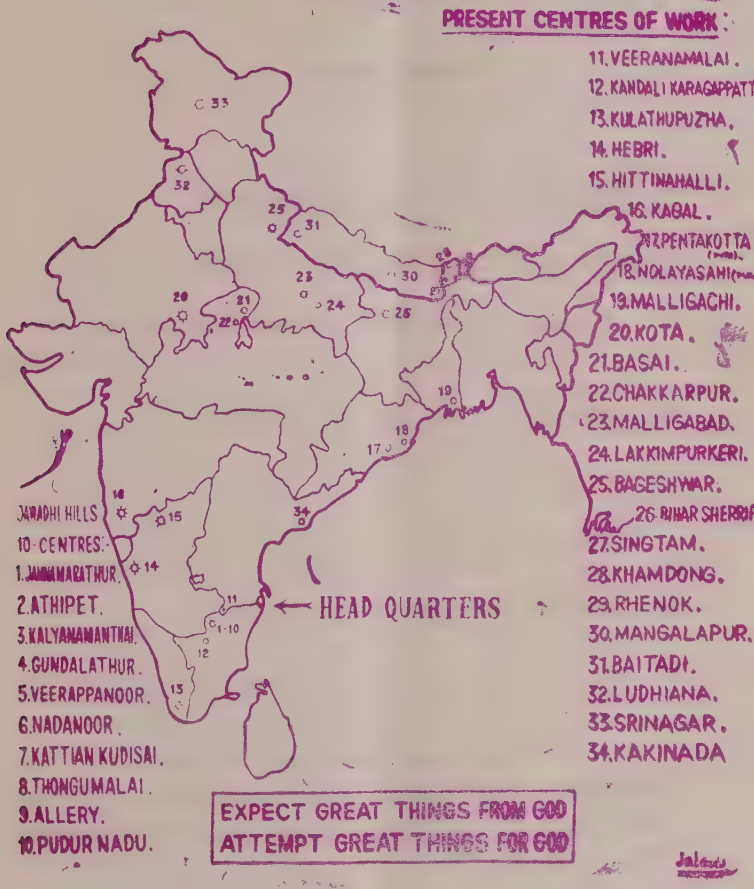
THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER

Vol. 79 | SEPTEMBER 1985 | No. 9

THE N.M.S. OF INDIA

ESTD. 1905.



CALL TO PRAYER 1985

Prayer Week 6th to 13th October 1985

CONTENTS

1. Message from the President
2. Special note from the General Secretary
3. Appeal on behalf of the Executive Committee
4. Litany for N. M. S. Sunday
5. Prayer
6. Present work
7. Weekly Prayer Calender

Errata : Page 19 & 20 of August 1985 issue of the N. M. I. under the statement of receipts and Expenditure and budget for 1985-'86 it is stated Mr.M D. Selvaraj, Hon. Secretary— Please read it as Hon. Treasurer.

The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

THE GREATEST WORK FOR YOU

The biggest Task God has set for men is to lead and win lost souls to Jesus Christ. The Saviour and Lord of mankind. Salvation lost God the most, so He sent His only begotten Son. Therefore, it requires from man more in strength of life, energy and love, than any other movement in human or divine history. It cost Jesus Christ most. He emptied Himself in sacrificial libation on God's altar that is on to Cross to redeem us. Therefore, He requires no less from us in reaching men. (Luke 19:27, Phil 2:7). What are the dimensions of this greatest work?

I. **It comes from above.** God calls with a fatherly love commissions us with a redeemer's compassion, and the Holy Spirit draws with a heavenly intercessory insistence. (Mathew 18:14, Mark. 16:15, Acts. 1:8).

II. **It comes from without.** Man's needs, his perils, his undone and ruined state of soul, and His impending doom in a Christless eternity press this call upon our hearts. The unconscious cry of a lost humanity comes up to greet the listening ear of every saved person. (Roms. 3:10, 23; John:18). The Hidden cry from hungry hearts expresses the desire to be right with God. Man's cry is—"No man careth for my soul" or "What a wretched man I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death".

III. **It comes from within.** Andrew cannot long abide with Christ, without thinking of and going after his brother Simon. So also Philip goes out to Nathaniel led by his inward experience. The same is true with the Samaritan woman, who with the transforming experience is impelled to go to her village folks. This is the work of the indwelling spirit of God. The transforming experience given by Jesus Christ will move us to share the joy. Christ, said to His disciples as they offered him bread after he had spoken to the woman at Jacob's well. "I have meat to eat that ye know not of". John 4:32. Do we know that meat? That

meat is to do the will of God and to know that we are sent by Him to seek and to save the lost by proclaiming the saving power and love of Jesus Christ.

IV. **It comes from below.** Have you heard in your hearts the tragic words of the one in torment in hell and who cried to Abraham? Luke 16:19-31. Do we hear the cry of the people around us and respond to them?

Let us not waste our time in serving tables, but obey the greatest commission of Lord Jesus Christ and give ourselves to the Ministry of word and prayer and proclaiming the Gospel to individuals, families, villages, towns and cities, castes and tribes and all classes of people.

To this end, the National Missionary Society is labouring in the field as the oldest, indigenous missionary organisation connected with the church bodies. So, we send this challenge and invitation to all the members in the body of Christ to share with the National Missionary Society in the task of Evangelism and Missions.

Rt. Rev. I. P. ANDREWS
President N.M S. of India.

SPECIAL NOTE FROM GENERAL SECRETARY

This September issue is called as the Prayer Call of the N.M.S. Every year the 2nd Sunday in October is being observed as the N.M.S. Sunday. This year it falls on the 13th of October.

The other regular features of the N.M.I. will appear in the October issue of the N.M.I. Every one who receive this issue of the N.M.I. is requested to approach your own Pastor and

make a request to pray for the country and for the evangelization of the country. You are also requested to take efforts for taking a special collection for the work of the Society and forward to the N.M.S. Headquarters.

Those who want the copies of the Prayer Call may contact the following addresses:

English & Tamil	Headquarters	206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.
Kannada	Mr. J. P. Ashwal	38/1341, M.H.B. Road, Tilak Nagar, Bombay-400 089.
Malayalam	Mr. K. Chandy	Mathilunkal House, Near Railway Station, Tiruvalla-689 101, Kerala.
Hindi	Mr. Ranjit Kumar	'Victoria Cottage' 14/625, Nai Basti, Murad Ali Lane, Lucknow-226 001, U.P.

Let us all pour out our hearts in prayer for the evangelization of our country.

An Appeal to the Christians, Leaders of the Churches and Heads of Institutions in India

The first National, Indigenous and Interdenominational Missionary Society was formed in India in 1905 with two objects:

1) to awaken the Indian churches for the evangelization of India.

2) to do the Missionary work in India and surrounding countries by Indian men and money.

The main line churches in India have extended their support to the work of the N.M.S.I. The Church of South India, and the Church of North India have by resolutions at their synod level commended the Society to the concern and support of the whole church. The Lutheran church has been a partner in the work from the beginning even to the extent of sending and supporting Missionaries. The Marthoma Syrian Church has also been a partner in the work of the Society. The Marthoma Church allows the N M.S. to speak about the Society's activities in its annal convention known as "Maramon Convention". Other individual churches also have shown interest and are supporting the work of the Society. The Methodist Churches have kept the N.M.S. in their benevolence list. The Basel Mission Church in Bombay supports the work in Jawadhi Hills. A number of branches and churches have come forward to give support for one missionary each and we praise God.

This year, 1985, the Society completes 80 years of service. On behalf of the Society we request you to stand with it both in prayer and support. We request you to exhort the churches and Institutions under your care to pray for the work of the Society during the week of prayer and to observe the N.M.S. Sunday on the 13th October 1985.

As a Society we have enlarged the work by opening new fields and appointing more men in the fields. We are planning to send out another 50 people in the near future. If each Christian in India could contribute Re. 1/- each we will have much more, for the work and the work could be doubled or trebled.

May we request you to support the Missionary work of the N.M.S.I.?

The Rt. Rev. I. P. ANDREWS,
President

M. D. SELVARAJ,
Hon. Treasurer

Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

LITANY

Let us Thank God,

For your acts in the history of mankind at many times and in many ways through your faithful servants.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For sending your only begotten Son into the world to save the world from sin and suffering.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For your commission to His disciples and through them to the church and to every believer to Preach, to make Disciple, to baptize and to instruct.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the churches evangelistic ministry and for the work of various missionary societies and particularly of the N.M.S.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the special vision of the founders of the N.M.S. to form the National Missionary Society of India as the national, interdenominational, indigenous Society to win India for Christ.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For your help and guidance during the last 80 years, in the life and activity of the Society.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the founders, officers, committee members and workers, who served and continue to serve in the Society faithfully till this day.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the sponsoring churches, institutions, branches, area committees, Prayer groups and individuals who are sponsoring the work both in prayer and finance.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the converts won by the Society and entrusted to the churches in their respective areas.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the open doors we have in our country to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

For the leaders of our nation, President, Prime Minister, Central and State Governments and for all those who are in authority.

WE THANK YOU O, GOD.

Let us Pray For :

1. For the churches in India to realise their mission to reach the unreached people around them.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

2. For the various Missionary Socities, viz, I.M.S.. N.M.S., F.M.P.B., I.E M., F.G.Y.M A., etc., working in this land of ours to co-operate and co-ordinate in the evangelistic task.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

3. For the various centres of work and for missionaries and evangelists, Organising Secretaries and other staff of the Society.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

4. For the co-operation of the churches in this endeavour by their prayer finance to reach the unreached.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

5. For getting enough resources to meet the new challenges.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

6. For the leaders, committee members, so that their vision in proclaiming the good news may be enlarged.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

7. For more evangelists to go into the unreached areas and for thei r support.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

8. For the educational, medical, social and particularly the gospel work which the Society is engaged.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

9. For the Tribal girls hostel in Jawadhi Hills; for their spiritual growth and support.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

10. For the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building which is under construction and for the needed funds.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

11. For the leaders of our nation, President, Prime Minister and others who are in authority may be guided by the spirit of God.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

12. For people to shed violence and love one another.

WE BESEECH YOU TO HEAR US O LORD.

Lords Prayer :

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our tresspasses as we forgive them those who tresspasses against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER

O God, who made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on face of the earth, we thank you for sending your only Son to offer Himself as a perfect sacrifice for the salvation of all nations. We thank you for the formation of the National Missionary Society of India, in your own time, through your faithful servants to carry the GOOD NEWS to the unreached, in this country. We pray to you to bless all the missionary efforts particularly the work and workers of the National Missionary Society of India Quicker the day in which all thy people of our country may accept, confess and worship you as their one God and Saviour. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRESENT WORK

As you have seen on the front page of the Prayer Call, the Society is working in 34 different Centres in India and out side. The Society's main concern is to reach the people with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The Society is working among all sections of our country, such as Hindus, Muslims, Tribals, Fishermen and devotees. Since last October over 100 people were baptised and added to Churches.

Apart from the gospel work, the Society is engaged in Educational, Medical and Social work. We help the illiterates to read and write and the sick people are helped with medical needs and by giving first aid and guiding them to the hospitals.

The Society has a hostel for the tribal girls in Jawadhi Hills and 29 girls are staying in the hostel and being educated. For each girl it costs around Rs. 80/- per month.

The Society has 83 full time workers and has the plan to send out more men and women to the unreached areas in our country and in the neighbouring countries for gospel work.

The Society at it's headquarters in Madras is constructing a building called as Platinum Jubilee Memorial building. The object of constructing this building is to use the income from the building for the enhancement of the salaries of the N.M.S. workers and to send out more people to new stations.

The entire support is raised from India and Indians. N M.S. is ours and it is our responsibility to proclaim this good news.

WEEKLY PRAYER CALENDER

Sunday :

1) For the continuous revival in the Churches.
2) For the Bishops, Church Committees.
3) For all those who go for worship.
4) The churches may realize the responsibility of proclaiming the good news.
5) For all the evangelistic agencies in the country.

Monday :

1) For the country—peace, love and harmony may prevail.
2) For the President, Prime Minister, and all those who are in power in our country.
3) For all the political parties that they may not be power mongers, but they serve the country.
4) For the students, that they may study and obey their parents and educational authorities and they may not be diverted by the politicians.
5) For the Office bearers of the N.M.S. and Committee members, who are the Hon. Workers of the Society. Particularly for the President, Vice-Presidents, General Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Asso. General Secretaries that they may guide the Society in fulfilling God's plan.

Tuesday :

1) For the work in Kashmir, Nepal, Sikkim and Bageshwar.
2) For the converts, that they may stand firm in their faith and witness the Lord.
3) For the Evangelists and their families so that their vision may not be diminished but enlarged. The soul winning burden may be renewed day by day.

Wednesday :

1) For the work in West Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, U.P. & M.P.
2) For the Evangelists and their families.
3) For the new converts and enquirers.
4) For the educational work at Puri, and for the contacts made among the pilgrims.

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Thursday :

1) For the work in Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra.
2) For the Enquirers.
3) For the contacts made through distribution of tracts in all Centres.
4) For the Branch and Area Committees that they may spread the Missionary Vision to the people.
5) For the new workers and for their support.

Friday :

1) For the work in Tamilnad and A.P. Viz. Jawadihi Hills, Kandili, Karagapatti and Veeranamalai, Kakkinada.
2) For the converts.
3) The tribal barriers may be broken and people may accept Christ.
4) For the medical and educational work.
5) Far the girls in the hostel at Jamnamarathur.
6) For the evangelists who are working in 10 centres of Jawadhi, Kandili-Karagapatti and Veeranamalai and Kakkinada.

Saturday :

1) For the secret believers.
2) For the worshipping group in the countries where there is no religious freedom, e.g. Nepal, Bhutan, Muslim and communist countries.
3) For the people who prepare themselves to preach, conduct the service on Sundays and for the ones who go for worship.
4) For the office staff at the headquarters.
5) For the Organising Secretaries, General Secretary and their families.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 79 OCTOBER 1985 No. 10

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MAR 17 1986

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5. Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building
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7. List of Donars to Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building Fund

The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

Urgent and Special Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the Executive Committee and the Special Session of the Triennial Council which will be held in Jabalpur from 13th to 15th of November 1985.

a) for the delegates and their safe travel.

bj for the President and all others who will be responsible in the conduct of the meetings.

c) for the Executive Committee and the Council which will be discussing on the draft Constitution of the N.M.S. of India.

2. Pray for the missionaries and eveangelists of the N.M.S. who are working in the Northern part of the country where the winter is severe. They need protection from cold.

3. Our missionaries and evangelists are preparing for the Christmas programmes for children in their working centres. Please pray that Lord may speak to the people in their locality through the Christmas programmes.

4· Pray for the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building work and for the needed funds. Pray also for a proper and good tenant.

5. Pray for the converts and enquirers in all the centres.

6. Pray for those who are undergoing training in Yavatmal and Kadinada. They are Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel and Mr. Mahimaidoss.

7. Pray for the supporters, Branches and Area Committees and for the supporting institutions and churches.

MEDITATION

Peter in Action

(Continued)

When Peter, went in to the home of Cornelius, obeying the voice of God, he found many people and we find the following in this passage.

Acts 10:28-33, Peter and Cornelius :

1. We find, Peter explaining to Cornelius why he came to his house Vs. 28. They knew each other that no Jew will go to a non-Jew's home for anything. But Peter expressed to his counter part who invited Peter as follows "But God hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean." Vs. 28 b. He was there because of God's direction and command. God had told him not to under estimate any one. Every man in this world has a soul, which is precious to God and He loved and still loves everyone. (John 3:16).

2. Peter asked Cornelius the reason of inviting him Vs. 29 b. As a man of God, Peter should have known why he is there, but he wanted to know the real intention which may open the way for Peter to tell the story of Jesus and God's love for humanity. He was slow and very careful in preaching about Jesus. The natural tendency of Peter was to express himself very quickly, but here he tries to pave the way for him to preach the Word of God.

3. We find Cornelius explains Vs. 30-33. He explained about the vision in detail and the directions to invite Peter. After narrating the whole story, Cornelius requested Peter to proclaim the word of God. He says "Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God' (Vs. 33 b.) Here we note two very important things.

a) "We all here are present before God." To a Jew God is in Jerusalem, to a muslim Allah is in Mecca, to a Hindu his God is seated in the temples, where these people go and worship him, but Cornelius said "We all here are present before God." Cornelius had the assurance that he is always in the presence of God. Some of us, 'Christians' think our God is only in the churches, where we meet together for worship or in such places where we pray as "Lord Jesus come in our midst" forgetting the fact that Jesus is with us as he has promised." Lo I am with you even unto the end of the world. Wherever we may be and whatever we may do, God's presence is there with us. He knows all the activities of ours and He knows our thoughts too.

b) "to hear all things that are commanded thee of God" Vs. 33 b. In other words we are here to hear the word of God and we want you to speak to us only what God has spoken to you.

They were expecting a fresh and new message from God through Peter. Cornelius wanted, Peter only what was commanded by God.

In plain words Cornelius told Peter we do not want to hear anything about you and your Jewish community, but want to hear only God's word. As we read the Bible, as we mediate as we prepare a sermon; do we/I ask God saying God speak to me"?

There was willingness to listen to the word of God. Unless we are willing to listen and obey Him, God cannot speak. Our barriers are broken down and we want to hear God's word. Let this spirit abide in us as we read the word of God and meditate, prepare sermons to preach and also to listen to the word of God.

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The greatness, faithfulness and loving kindness of God cannot be explained in words. This we have experienced in our lives repeatedly. He provides only as per our needs. During the month of June and July we had some difficulties in disbursing the salaries to the N.M.S. staff, but God supplied the funds. Praise to His Holy name.

The September issue of the N.M.I. had to be brought out as prayer call. Some of the news items which have come in this issue might have been brought to your notice through the thanking letters.

Hostel Day Celebrations:

The Jawadhi hostel day celebration took place on 2nd August 1985 at Jamnamarathur. The Rt. Rev. Sam Ponniah, Bishop of Vellore diocese and the Vice President of the N.M.S. presided over the function. Friends from Vellore, Bangalore, Kerala and Madras attended the functions.

This girls hostel was started on 2nd August 1981 with 4 girls and the present strength is 29. This was a venture in faith and God honoured it. Some of the girls are supported by a few friends and institutions in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Still we need support for another 15 girls. It will cost Rs. 75/- for each student per month. Will you be interested in supporting one of them?

Retreat and Baptism:

A retreat for the converts in Jawahdi Hills and a baptism service were held on 3rd and 4th August at Jamnamarathur. Nearly 120 converts came together from different parts of Jawadhi Hills. On 4th August, 17 baptised converts were confirmed to the membership of the church. A tribal christian church is growing in Jawadhi Hills and this is a part of the C.S.I. Vellore diocese.

Madras Annual Sale:

The Madras City Area Committee conducted the annual sale on 15th August at Ewart Matriculation School. The Rt. Rev. H. S. Dhanaraj, Asst. Bishop in Madras was the Chief guest. Dr. Thampiah declared the Sale open after saying a few words. (Dr. Thampiah's mother Dr. Mrs. Thampiah though pretty old, cannot see anything and being in bed continues to raise funds for the work of the society and it is worth noticing and a matter of Praise to God.)

There were more stalls from the churches. As usual the headquarters had a stall. A little boy Timothy had his Timothy stall in a small way.

The efforts of the new leaders of the M.C.A.C. need to be appreciated. The total collection thus far through Sale and Sale collection is Rs. 71,024.40.

P.J.M B.

The Building work is in progress and it needs funds immediately for completion of the work. We need atleast another Rs. 3 lakhs to complete the work. An abstract about the income and expenditure may be found else where in the N.M.I. and the list of contributors from 1977 to the end of August 85.

Visitor :

Dr. J. B. Chitambar, one of the sons of late Bishop Chitamber who was one of the founder of of the N.M.S. visited our office and was very happy to see the building come up. Bishop Chitamber's family has contributed Rs. 5,300/- for the P. J. M. Building.

General Secretary's Tour :

I had the privilege of visiting friends in Jabalpore, Jhansi and a few friends in Kolhapur and Sangli.

New Appointments :

1) Mr. Victor Henry was appointed as the Org. Secretary for South Tamilnad.

2) Mr. S. William from Tranquebar to work with Mr. G. A. Raju at Nadanur. Mr. & Mrs. M. P. Andrews to work at Pudur nadu and Miss Rebecca Kohila to work with Miss Vasanthakumari David in Maharashtra. Miss Kohila will work in Tanjavur for 2 months. Please pray for these new comers.

Christmas Cheers :

We are not far away from the Christmas season and I would like to remind you about the Christmas Cheers. As we plan the gifts for our family, let us also think about the N.M.S. workers who are serving the Lord in difficult places. Your kind donations may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, N.M.S. immediately as "Christmas Cheer".

Our Country :

We had the Independence day celebrated and the elections in Punjab. Let us continue to pray that there may be peace in Punjab as a new ministry is formed. We also need to pray for the proteetion of our national leaders, who are in responsible positions particularly our President and Prime Minister.

We also need to pray for the ethnic problems in Sri Lanka and God's intervention and direction in the peace talks. Let us pray that the efforts of our Prime Minister may be blessed and approved by God accepted by both the Governments and ethnic leaders in Sri Lanka.

Over ruling thought :

I am not here in N.M.S. of mine own but of Him who called me for His work. None of us are in His Service of their own desire but of Him. John 15:16. It will not be possible to do anything by ourselves.

FIELD REPORTS

Kashmir—Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih.

From the 1st of August to 12th September 1985 Mr. Tahir Masih visited the converts and enquirers in the area to encourage them in the faith. He also went to Pulwama and Baramula districts for the gospel work. Your prayers are requested for the converts and enquirers.

Khamdong—Sikkim: Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal.

Mr. Daniel Bal reports as "I am visiting the people regularly whom I contacted. Mr. D. B. Lamachane's family accepted Jesus as their Saviour. Once in a while some other believers are also visiting me and staying with me. We both visit the villages and distribute tracts and Gospels. We used to tell our own experiences and pray for the sick. One of the leaders of Sat Sangh accepted Christ and now giving his testimony to others. Because of that many people came to hear him. Hope they may accept Christ. Please pray for these people. During this month I visited Sang, Racaph, Chalamthang, Singtam, Tadong, Samdong and Mekha and distributed tracts and Gospels."

Rhenock—Sikkim: Mr. & Mrs. Bir Singh Ademnu Lepcha.

Mr. Lepcha writes "I am visiting the villages nearby and contacting the people personally and telling the good news to them. Besides this I am contacting the people in Kopche, New Khamdong. (Mainly Nepalees are living in these places). They show more interest than Bhutias. There are many villages nearby, where the people never heard the gospel. I am visiting these villages one by one". Let us pray that the work in hilly areas may yield more fruits.

Singtam—Sikkim: Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham.

Mr. V. T. Abraham writes, that he conducted prayer meetings visited the patients in the hospital and visited people in their homes and contacted people individually. He has asked us to pray for Mr. M. N. Sharma and family and for Mr. P. K. H. Pillai and family. He also requests our prayers for Mr. S. K. Basact, Mr. M. M. Rasaily, Miss Pradhan, Miss Karuna Pradhan.

Lukkimperkheri : Mr. & Mrs. Sampath James.

Mr. Sampath continues to contact people individually and some times in groups. He has requested the prayers for Mr. Birendra Kumar Dirth and his 3 friends, who mocked at him and later became very friendly because of the friendly attitude of the Evangelist. They wanted to have more information about Jesus Christ.

Special prayers are requested for Messrs Birendra Kumar Dirth, Balan, Kamalaswami Verp, Ismael. (Ismael is reading St. John's Gospel). Dr. Poojan Lal Varma, Penag Srivasta and Ram Misra. Let us continue to uphold these people and the ministry in these areas.

Nolayasahi—Puri : Mr. Daud Sagar.

He conducts regular prayer meetings. He is also teaching the students about the love of Jesus and songs. Two Hindu women are regularly attending the prayer meetings for whom your prayers are solicited.

Lachima an old woman was very seriously ill. She was in her death bed. We prayed earnestly for her recovery and God answered our prayers and healed her. We praise His Holy name.

Chakkarpur—U.P. Rev. R. R. Vyas and Mr. C. Devanesan.

During the period from 29-7-1985 to 1-9-1985 Rev. Vyas has visited the following villages and proclaimed the Good News.

Rajpura, Lathasena, Simrawari, Tilak Nagar, Chakkarpur, Kaipai, Jauoli, Pathaui Marodh, BHEL Township, Khailas Bangawan, Rasoi.

Rev. Vyas has requested for a meghaphone which may cost about Rs. 800/-. Mr. C. Devanesan is working with Rev. R. R. Vyas.

Hebri : Mr. Godfrey B. Soans.

A village, Belve 13 K.M. from Hebri was visited and people were contacted individually. Tracts and Gospel portions were distributed. People were eager to listen to the message. At Kekanji boys and girls continue to attend Bible Classes. They are taught

songs and stories. Prayer is requested for Shivayya who has accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. Kindly pray for Godfrey's mother who is not keeping well.

Kulathupuzha: Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

Miss Jebarani and Miss Vijayakumari daughters of Mr. Karuppan have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. They are being prepared for Baptism. Please pray for them and for their parents. Messrs. Mohan and Mani are also willing to join the Christian fold and they need your prayers. Please pray that the work among the Tamil settlers from Srilanka and Kanees may yield more results.

Kandili—Karagapatti: Rev. Dn. and Mrs. Thiraviam.

Rev. Dn. Thiraviam writes that he had an opportunity to visit a Naidu family and the people of that family objected to the Gospel work which they do. Based on the Bible he has spoken to the family but finally they demanded Rs. 5000/- saying that "if you give us this amount we all will become Christians. We continued to speak to them the Love of Christ. One young lady of that house named Ramani is showing interest in the Gospel and we continue to contact her. Please pray that Ramani and the members of her family may find Christ. We have given a Bible to this family and they are reading it. The following are being prepared for baptism; Miss Ramani, Messrs Mani and Sundaram, Dr. Kanagaraj, Mrs. Kamala and Mr. Kasinathan. Please also pray for the R. S. S. people who oppose preaching the Gospel in this area.

Veeranamalai—Mr. & Mrs. C. Velmurugan.

Mr. C. Velmurugan has visited several villages in his area, particularly among the Lambadies in Vedars. Please pray that the Gospel may penetrate among the Lambadies and Vedars in Veeranamalai area. Kindly pray also for the health of Mr. C. Velmurugan and his family.

JAWADHI HILLS:

Jamnamarathur—Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss.

Your prayers are requested for Chinnaiyan, Saroja, Andi, Pappathi, Ramasamy, Kuppy, Velliammal and Lakshmanan of Melur

village. Please also pray for Sivagami, Munuswamy and Mrs. Munuswamy, Mr. & Mrs. Tirupathi, Mr. & Mrs. Shanmugam and Samuel Chinnakannu and family of Nayakkanoor, Kavaloor and Krishnapuram. These people have heard the Gospel. Please pray that they may accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Please also pray for the girls in the hostel.

Athipet—Mr. & Mrs. James Meyyan:

Mr. James Meyyan has visited 19 villages during the month of August 1985, and he has also contacted 186 people individually. Mr. James Meyyan is preparing 10 people to be baptised by the month of May 1986. Please pray that all those who are being prepared may have better knowledge in the word of God and they may become true witnesses, for the Lord in that area.

Gundalathur—Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel.

During the month of May, 4 people took baptism. Please pray that these 4 people may grow in grace and be witnesses for the Lord in this area. Kindly continue to pray for the medical work, educational work and the Gospel work which are being done in Gundalathur Area.

Kalyanamanthai—Mr. Jesudoss.

During the month of August 1985 six people were baptised at Jamnamarathur. Please pray that these people may stand firm in their faith because these converts will have to face problems from their own people. A few more are being prepared for baptism. One Mr. Govindan and his family are showing interest in the Christian faith. Pray that he and his family may come to the knowledge of Jesus. Mr. Govindan's son used to walk while sleeping and after much prayer he was relieved of such habit. Praise God for him. He is attending the church service. One man from Thopur village accepted Jesus as His Lord and Saviour though the communal regidity does not permit him to take a bold step. The Spirit of God is moving in the village in and around Kalyanamanthai. Please pray that many may accept Jesus and follow Him.

Kattiankudisai—Mr. & Mrs. Devairakkam

Doraisamy of Melkupsamur has firm faith in Jesus Christ and he is being prepared for baptism. He has some family property

problem and he is worried about it. Please pray that he may continue to grow in grace and his problems may be solved. John Muthusamy of the same village was working as B. P. M. and he is one of the first converts in that village. He has back slidden and he is suspended from the job. Please pray that he may come back to the Lord and he may also be reinstated. John Kuppusamy climbed a tree to get some fruits and the branch broke, but he got hold of another branch and was wonderfully saved. He testified that the Lord Jesus Christ saved him from death. Please continue to pray for the people in Kattiankudisai and surrounding villages may find Jesus.

Veerapanoor—Mr. & Mrs. Robert John.

During the month of August 1985 he was able to visit 18 villages. He reports that there are many people who are possessed by the evil spirits and he has asked us to pray for the people. A young man named Suppan has accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour and he wants to take baptism. He is prepared for baptism. Kindly also pray for Mani and Chinnappaian that they may accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

Mallihabad—Mr. & Mrs. Mahesh Chandra Mitra.

They still continue to work from Lucknow as they are not able to get a house for them to live in Malligabad or in a near by village. Please pray that they may get a house to live in Malligabad. He is contacting both Muslims and Hindus. Please pray that the contact made may be fruitful. Special prayers are requested for Mr. Asif Ali and his family and Mr. Lakhan Singh.

Allery—Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles.

Mr. Charles reports that he has visited 25 villages and contacted many people. He writes, many people hear the Gospel with eagerness and there are many people who are under the control of the evil spirit have asked to pray for them. A few young people have promised saying that "We will accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour." He has requested to pray for Chinnoor the village Head, so that he may have his full eye sight and also accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

2) The Pallampet Nattar (Nattar is the Head of 10 villages) is listening to the Gospel message with eagerness and has requested to tell him more about Jesus. But he says if he accepts Jesus his

community people will throw him out and he will lose his job. So he is afraid of becoming christian. Your prayers are requested for him.

3) Please pray for the ones who are being prepared for baptism.

4) For those who are coming regularly for the worship service.

5) Pray for those who had heard about the Gospel.

6) Pray for school children.

7) Pray for those who are opposing the gospel indirectly.

8) Pray for the land alienation problem. (We have put up a shed in a poramboke land and we are trying to get the land alienated).

Basai M.P.—Messrs Stanley Mohan, C. Dhyananthan, P. C. Singh & P. Moses.

They have visited the places in and around Basai and contacted many people. They have sold a number of New Testaments, Gospel packets and Great Bible Truth. This has helped them to contact the people who read and write. They report one Mr. Theju Prasad Gupta one of the richest man in Basai went to their evangelist house and asked them to pray for the pain in his body and they prayed for him. It was a Blacksmith's family members who guided him to go to the Evangelist's place, for prayers. Blacksmith family members are growing in faith. If they have any sickness or weakness they immediately go for prayer. They do not allow to take medicine. They are also getting other people towards them for prayer and discussion.

THE TRIVANDRUM AREA COMMITTEE

CELEBRATES THE PLATINUM JUBILEE

on 22nd and 23rd November 1985

The Trivandrum N.M.S. branch was formed in the year 1910. It is the oldest surviving branch of the N.M.S.

General Secretary.

BRANCH NEWS

Hyderabad—Secunderabad :

Dr. Sushil Packianathan reports that he has formed a new branch in the Sarojini Hospital where he works. Sister Rita Smiles is the Convener. We welcome the new branch into the fellowship of the N.M.S.

Uttar Pradesh :

A new branch was formed at Ahawabagh and the following are the leaders of the Committee and members of the local branch.

Spritual Advisor	:	Miss J. Bose
President	:	Rev. C. Cornelius
Vice President	:	Dr. Carol Singh
Secretary	:	Mr. Ernest Patras
Treasurer cum Joint Secretary	:	Mr. S. C. Hemraj.

Members :

1. Mr. Vijaya Singh
2. Miss S. Wilson
3. Mr. P. K. Thomas
4. Mr. Seth Hawes
5. Mr. Vinod Shimla
6. Mr. Arun Philip Lall
7. Mr. Philip Lall
8. Mr. S. K. Lall
9. Mr. C. R. Nathan.

Kindly pray that this branch may continue to do its best to pray for the work of the N.M.S. and support regularly. Mr. Hemraj is doing his best in contacting people for raising fund for the Society.

Madhya Pradesh :

Mr. F. S. Charles reports that he has formed a new branch in Chindwara in M. P. and the following are the office bearers. Rev. Dr. S. D. Rao, Mr. J. Prakash, Dr. Marous Biswas, Mr. N. K. Biswas, Mr. S. B. Mathews and its members are Messrs L. K. Timoty, J. P. Gulab, C. P. Swaroop, G. Washington, J. D. Khan, J. Rues, L. M. Lall, Mrs. S. B. Biswas, Mrs. S. B. Mathews.

We wish that this branch formed in the former N.M.S. mission field may yield much fruit and bring many souls to Jesus Christ.

PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING

The construction work is progressing, but very slowly for lack of funds. A few friends have responded to the appeals and we praise God for each one of them. A list of contributors who have contributed for this purpose is published in this issue. The following works have to be completed.

1. Flooring
2. Plastering
3. Shutters, windows and doors have to be purchased and fitted in
4. Electrification.

All these will cost about Rs. 3 lakhs.

An abstract of income and expenditure is given below.

Receipts from 1977—78 to 1983—84	Rs.	93,131	83
„ During 1984—85	Rs.	64,855	00
„ from 1st April '85 to Aug. '85	Rs.	53,050	07
Total	Rs.	2,11,036	90
Expendirure upto March 1985	Rs.	2,38,848	71
„ from 1—4—'85 to 31—8—'85	Rs.	2,62,932	68
Total	Rs.	5,01,781	39

We would solicit your prayers and support.

General Secretary

An Urgent Need

The winter season is fast approaching and there is no provision in the N.M.S. budget to provide winter allowance to all the missionaries. We need Rs. 1000/- to provide a Rasai and Sweater.

Those who are guided by the spirit of God may send their contributions to the Hon. Treasurer specifying as for "Winter Clothing."

General Secretary

OBITUARY

Mrs. Emily Sugandhi Ammanna went to be with the Lord on 13—7—1985 after a short period of illness. She was 58 years old. She was a prayer partner and supporter of the N.M.S. work. She was also a Life Member of the Society. She had done yeoman service at Madikeri congregation as Sunday School and VBS teacher. She left behind her husband, three sons, a daughter, in-laws and grand children.

Brother Augustine Salins of Udipi.

Bro. Salins former Director of Ambassadors for Christ India Bangalore entered into His eternal rest on 9th August 1985 in Australia. God used him in the revival ministry at home and abroad. He was called as "Weeping Preacher"--He was a prayer partner of our Society. His wife Dr. Salins remembers the workers during Christmas and donates "Christmas Cheers". After retirement from the A.F.C., his family moved to Australia and stayed with their daughter.

We thank God for his wonderful and useful ministry rendered in India and abroad. May God give peace to the bereaved family.

by J. P. ASHWAL.

Satan places two obstacles before me

1. He tries to keep them from receiving Christ as Saviour and
2. If he fails in this, he then tries to keep men from understanding the importance and work of the Holy Spirit. Once a man is converted, Satan seems to have two different approaches. He tries to get men to associate the filling of the Holy Spirit with emotional excesses or the opposite swing of the pendulum to ignore Holy Spirit altogether.

* * * * * *

A singing thanks-giving heart and a submissive spirit, independent of circumstances, are so unnatural that they can only be won through the filling of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God is able to change the gloomy or gripping heart into a song fitted thankful heart. He is also able to solve man's natural rebellion problem by increasing his faith to the point that he really believes. The best way to live is in submission to the will of God.—**Dr. Lattaye.**

(Collected by Udyogamandal Fellowship)

LIST OF DONORS TO PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING FUND

FROM 1977 TO 31—8—1985

Dr. Rainita Aiman Bangalore	8,000	00
Mrs. Emid Chitambar Allahabad	5,400	00
Miss L. A. R. Thomas Allahabad	5,300	00
Mrs Selvam Raj, Madurai	5,000	00
Mr. E. S. Peters, Delhi	5,000	00
Mr. Mohan Bangara Noel Pharmacenticals Bombay	5,000	00
Mr. M. O. Salius, Bombay	100	00
Dr. K. N. Kanthiah, Madras	5,000	00
Thro' Dr. George D. Bangapur, Bijapur	4,100	00
Mrs. A S. Thambiah, Madras	4,000	00
Mrs. Florence G. Abraham	4,000	00
Rt. Rev. D Sunder Clarke, Madras	3,000	00
Mr. G. Solomon, Madras	2,000	00
Mrs. R. Cherian, Calicut	2,000	00
Mr N B Singh, Bareilly	2,100	00
Mr P D Kumaresan, Madras	2,000	00
Miss V C Dhar, Lucknow	2,000	00
Mr Chandra Prasad, Madras	2,000	00
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M/s Nulraj Joseph & Francis Joseph, Madras	1,000	00
Mr J P Moses, Hong Kong	1,000	00
Mrs A K uriyan, Kerala	1,000	00
Mrs D Bose, Madras	1,000	00
Mrs Leela David, Madras	1,000	00
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Mrs Leela Yesudian, Madras	1,000	00
Mr S P D Chelladurai, Madras	1,400	00
Mr M D Selvaraj, Madras	1,000	00
Mrs Helen Mathews, Madras	1,000	00
Mrs & Mr Charles A Jones, Ambernath	1,000	00
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Dr A C D Muthu, Madras	1,000	00
Mr P K John, Madras	1,000	00
Mr R Jeyakumar, Madras	1,000	00
Mrs P S Gnanam, Madras	1,000	00
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Dr J Azariah, Madras	1,000	00
Dr A S Johnson, Madras	1 000	00
Mrs P Prasad, Madras	1,000	00
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Mrs Urmila R Vyas, Jhansi	1,000	00
Mrs & Mr A P Herbert, Gorakhpur	1,000	00
Mr Arthur V Singh, Allahabad	1,000	00
Mr J J Daniel, Madras	1,000	00
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Dr A Nallathambi, Tirupathur	1,000	00

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Mr G Sunder Singh, Madras	1,000	00
Mr D V Raju	1,000	00
Mr G Solomon, Madras	1,000	00
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Mr R Daniel, Salem	1,000	00
Miss Vilasini White, Trivandrum	1,000	00
Mrs Christy Arumainayagam Madras	1,000	00
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Thro' Mrs K Gnanabharnam, Madras	1,500	00
Mrs Mohini Krishnayya, Poona	11,000	00
Mr A Alexander Samuel, Madras	1,000	00
Mr Saeed Rallia Ram, Madras	1,000	00
Mr G Solomon's Family, Madras	1,000	00
Mr S R Theophilus, Madras	1,000	00
Mr S Devairakkam, Madras	1,000	00
Mr W Joacquim, Madras	1,000	00
Mrs Hosanna Edwards, Madras	1,000	00
Mr P K Mullick, Calcutta	1,000	00
Mr A Alfred, Vellore	1,000	00
Dr & Mrs C K Job, U.S.A.	1,236	00
Mr M J Sargunam, Coimbatore	1,000	00
Vidwan Kanagaratnam, Krishnagiri	1,000	00
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Bombay Kannada Branch NMS, in memory of late Mr J Amoda	1,000	00
Mrs Ethil Khan, Kunda	1,000	00
Mr P K Thomas, Singapore	1,000	00
Mrs Nalini K Chandran Vellore	1,000	00
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Mr J D Asirvatham, Madras	900	00
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Mr A K Doss, Lucknow	25	40
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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

Peter in Action

(continued)

Acts No. 34-48

This passage indicates a new and challenging opening which Peter has in presenting the Gospel in a nut shell and the work of the Holy spirit among the gentiles which was an astonishment to the disciples from the Jewish background.

I. Vs. 34-43: We find Peter presenting the Gospel message in a nut sholl, by which the simple and common people could understand the love of God.

1. "God is no respecter of persons" Vs. 34. There were the differences of opinions among the jewish and gentiles. They hated each other and had no love for one another. They had the idea that they are not equals. The Jewish community had the idea, as we see in the Bible, that they were the only chosen gencration by God and others are not so. The gentiles were looked down by this chosen generation. When Peter was convinced by the spirit of God he speaks out that God is no respecter of persons and all are equal before Him.

2. Vs. 35: God accepts anyone from any nation who fears Him and do good in His sight. God expects people to be righteous in their daily work. We need to be accepted by God. 2 Cori. 5:9. Are we accepted by Him ?

3. Vs. 36-40: God, who is not a respecter of persons, who accepts every one in any nation, who does live a righteous life, sent His Word, the Jesus Christ to this world. Peter also reminded them that Jesus Christ was sent to the Children of Israel. It is true that Jesus of Nazareth lived in a limited territory. He preached peace. He also related to the stating "After the baptism which John Preached", that Jesus Christ is the Lord of all. He also went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the evil. Deliverance was the main object of the person Jesus Christ. He gave liberty to people from sin and sufferings. He was sent for that.

It was also proclaimed by Peter that "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth." Today we speak of African Christ, American Christ,

Indian Christ, etc. Bible clearly speaks about the Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified, dead, buried and resurrected. Salvation from sin and suffering will be achieved only through this Jesus Christ. A change of life and victory can be had only in Him and through Him.

4. Vs. 41-45: Peter affirmed that the disciples are witnesses of what God had done in and through this Jesus Christ. Before and even after the death and resurrection, this Jesus was with them in His body.

Peter not only confessed the living Jesus, but proclaimed that they were commended to proclaim and testify Him, that this Jesus of Nazareth will be judge for the quick and the dead. Our Lord Jesus Christ is not only a redeemer but He is a judge too. Often we forget the fact that our Lord Jesus Christ is a judge.

Peter very clearly indicated that, any one who believes in Him shall receive the remission of sins. Jesus was sent to this world, in order that everyone who accepts Him may find a remedy for their sins.

While Peter began His sermon He stated "Of a truth I percieve" Do we percieve this truth?

II. Vs. 44-48: The spirit of God in action among the gentiles and the disciples in line with God's plan.

(1) Vs. 44: We find, "While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all of them which heard the word". Peter would have preached hours together. It is stated while Peter yet spoke." If the human elements are prepared to obey, the spirit of God will not tarry to do His work. All it required was the obedience of Peter, in going to the gentiles to present the Gospel. The spirit of God will be at liberty, when the man will be willing to surrender to Him. The entire house hold of Cornelius was willing to listen to the words spoken by Peter and Peter was willing to meet them and speak to them.

(2) Vs. 45: There was astonishment among the disciples of the Jewish background. God is no respecter of persons, was proved there. Whether circumcism or no circumcism the spirit of God filled them and they also spoke in tongues and magnified the Lord.

(3) Vs. 46-47: Peter felt no difference between the Jews and gentiles, because the spirit of God took control of these gentiles. He commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. There is no indication of who baptized, how baptized and what type of people were baptized. We need to know that, it was the house hold of Cornelius. Definitely both young and old, children and adults were present there.

It was the spirit of God which cantrolled the people and the situation there.

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD
FALL AFRESH ON ME (2)

BREAK ME, MELT ME, MOULD ME
AND FILL ME.

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD
FALL AFRESH ON ME.

The Indian church needs the SPIRIT OF GOD FOR THE Evangelization of the Country.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

The Trivandrum Area Committee of the N.M.S. celebrated it's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on 22nd and 23rd of November 1985 at the T.J.M. Hall in the C.S.I. (L.M.S.) Compound Trivandrum.

The programme began with the Communion Service at the Christ Church conducted by its Vicar the Rev. Chacko.

Immediately after the Communion Service the Annual Sale was organised at the T.J.M. Hall, where the meeting was Presided by the very Rev. Pilee, one of the Vicar General of the Mar Thoma Church and a souvenir was released.

The main function took place on 23rd November under the Chairmanship of the Most Rev. Jesudasan, Moderator of the C.S.I. The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Mar Ephraim Auxiliary Bishop, Malankara Syrian Church and Rt. Rev. Gee Varghese Mar Dioscorus Bishop,

(Continued on page 6)

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

N.M.S. Sale in Tanjore:

On October 2nd, the Tanjore N.M.S. friends had their Annual Sale and they raised about Rs. 8000/- and forwarded the amount to the headquarters.

Onedav retreat and Annual Sale in Madurai:

The Madurai City Area Committee had their Annual One day retreat on 2nd October 1985 and their Annual Sale on 2nd November 1985.

Executive Committee and Special Session of the Triennial Council:

A Special Session of the Executive Committee and Triennial Council of the N.M.S. was held at the Leonard Theological College in Jabalpur from 13th to 15th of November 1985. This Special Session was called as per the decision of the Triennial Council held in 1981 in Allhabad to consider the draft Constitution of the N.M.S. of India. At the last Triennial Council it was decided to register the N.M.S. of India under the Company's Act of 1956. The of spirit God enabled all the members of the Council to pass the constitution unanimously and we thank God for His guidance. The Jabalpur N.M.S. branch was responsible for hosting the Council and Executive. They raised money from different places for the expenditure in connection with accommodation and food. A detailed report will be published in the next issue of the N.M.I.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building:

The construction work is progressing very slowly for lack of funds. Unless friends come forward with their helping hand, we may not be able to complete the work in time. Through the last issue of the N.M.I. you have seen the income and expenditure. We have also published the income from the friends for the Building project from 1978.

Warm Clothing for the N.M.S. Workers:

Urgently we need to provide some funds for warm clothing for our evangelists who are serving in the cold areas. It is estimated that we may require Rs. 10,000/- for the same.

Need Evangelists:

N.M.S. is in need of Evangelists to go into the unreached areas of our country, to proclaim

the love of Jesus, and you are requested to pray for this great need. N. M. S. needs people to pray, to send and to go.

Floods in Tamilnad :

Unexpected floods have greatly affected certain areas of Tamilnad due to heavy and continuous rain. There were loss of lives and property. Road and rail services were cut off; particularly between Madras and Villupuram. Let us pray that the people affected by the flood may be brought back to normal situations.

Looted :

Some of our people who were on the way to Jabalpur by the Ganga Caveri Express were looted at Balharshah in mid night. Particularly four people lost everything except the clothes they were wearing. The loss is estimated about Rs. 10,000/-.

Kindly continue to pray for the work of the Society.

Thanking you,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

(Continued from page 4)

Orthodox Church blessed the occasion with short messages and challenged the gathering.

The Moderator in his address expressed that as nationals we need to do a lot in bringing the message of freedom to the people of our country. The Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, General Secretary of the N.M.S. brought the message based on I Corin. 9:16.

The Choir of the Mar Thoma Jerusalem Church brought the message through a song. The students of the Kerala United Theological Seminary brought the message through action songs. The children of the Polio home sang a song.

The President Prof. K. J. Thomas spoke a few words as opening remarks. Mr. K. George, Vice President welcomed the gathering and guests. Dr. Churchinben read the scripture. Miss Vilasini White, Secretary read the report and Mr. K. K. Koshy thanked every one for their presence and messages.

The opening prayer was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Jacob Verghese, Principal, K.U.T.S. and closing prayer was conducted by Rev. K. C. George.

A short report about the Trivandrum Area Committee will appear in the next issue of the N.M.I.

FIELD REPORT

Singtam—Sikkim : Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bai &
Mr. & Mrs. Bir Sing Ademnu Lepcha

He reports that he and his co-evangelists visited several villages and distributed tracts. They visited the hospitals at Gangtok S.T.N, Singtam and North Bengal Clinic and prayed for the sick in the hospital. A special prayer meeting was held in the house of a Hindu and our prayers are required that he may accept the Lord. We need to pray for Mrs. Abraham who is suffering from B. P. and sugar complaint and also for Mrs. Daniel Bal who is suffering from chest pain. Mr. Daniel Bal visited Dung Dung village and talked to the people who had never heard about Jesus Christ. Our prayers are requested for Mr. Krishna Bahadur a believer.

Kota—Rajasthan : M. Barun Kumar Saumi.

His report is that he contacted people at bus stands, railway stations and market places and distributed tracts. There was heavy and incessant rain and flood in Kota resulting in heavy damage to lives and property. But our Lord God protected the believers from all hardships. In Narja Garon village when the Gospel was preached to about 40 students in a school, after some time they became restive and threatened the evangelist that he would meet with dire consquences if he chose to visit them again. Let us pray for the protection of this evangelist.

Basai : Mr, Stanley Mohan, Mr. Dhyananthan, Mr. Moses & Mr. P. C. Singh.

They report that with the help of the Presbyter of C.N.I. Church, Babina they met Mr. M. R. G. Raju's family and inparted messages from the Bible and also had a fasting prayer in that house. Even though the family members have faith in Jesus Christ, yet they have not accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. This family is being contacted by them continuously. Our prayers are requested for Mr. Pool Singh, Maniram, Hariram and Rajan of Manickpur village who are eager in hearing the good news. They want us to remember Mr. Swamy's family and also for Mr. Purushothaman Pateria of Makdari village in our prayers.

Chakarpur—U.P. : Rev. R. R. Vyas and Mr. C. Devanesan

They visited Chakarpur, Rasoi, Rajpura and Kaipai and met several people individually and in groups. A Higher Secondary

School teacher, Mr. Nand Ram and Ghamadi Lal were keen enquirers and we need to pray that they accept the Lord as their Saviour- In Kaipai one Mr. Lala Ram is very near to God and he being a literate a New Testament has been given to him.

Nolayasahi—Puri : Mr. Daud Sagar

He has visited some villages, contacted 31 persons and distributed 190 tracts. School work and prayer meetings are done as programmed. People in this area are not really interested in hearing the good news and we need to pray for a revival.

Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi, Mr. R. V. Ramana, Mrs. Mariamma Kotteswara Rao.

The strength in the N.M.S. Primary School is 200. They are taught their normal lessons and Bible verses. House visiting and cottage prayer meetings are done regularly The number attending the Sunday School is 50. They are taught songs and Bible verses.

Lukkimpurkheri : Mr. & Mrs. Sampath James.

He reports that he met Mr. Ashok Kumar Guptha a student of Lukkimpur Inter College and talked for a long time about the love of our Lord and about the scriptures. One Mr. M. K. Misra evinced keen interest in the Bible and wanted a Bible. He was given a Bible and he paid the cost of it. Mr. Subash Chandra Pandday who has just begun to hear the Gospel, has some family problems and bodily ailments. We need to pray for his good health, for solution to the problems he is confronted with and that he may accept Jesus Christ.

Hebri : Mr. Godfrey B. Soans.

He states that he visited the villages Muddur, Gurumahola, Belve, Kadke Bill, M. Jeddu & Jombulu and contacted 37 families. One Mr. Divekara Hegde took much interest in hearing God's message for an hour. He requests our special prayers for this person and also for Mr. Manjurietta Shastri, Ramiah Achari, Gopala & Sheena.

Kandili : Dn. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam

Visited 10 villages and preached the Gospel to people who have never heard about Jesus. He reports that on 30—9—1985 when he visited the shop of Mr. Kuppusamy some persons opposed to

Christianity asked several meaningless questions and challenged to prove the might of our Lord and in what way He is superior to their God. But later on when they were suitably replied with reference to the Bible they were convinced. Some are visiting the evangelists now and then to have some of their doubts cleared.

Mr. Thiraviam requests to remember in our prayers a boy aged 4 years near Krishnagiri who is affected with Polio and for the mother of Dr. Kanagaraj who is possessed byevil spirit for nearly 20 years.

Veeranamalai : Mr. & Mrs. C. Velmurugan

In spite of the heavy rains during the past months, he was able to contact the Lambadies, in their villages and take God's message to them. He has contacted 111 persons individually, distributed tracts to 57 persons and prayed specially for ten persons. He is learing the Lambadi and Telugu languages. He reports the that Lambadies are showing keen interest in the Gospel message and that some will embrace christianity and be baptised soon.

Prayer requests :

1) For the liberation of the Lambadies from their drinking habtis.

2) For their salvation and baptism

3) To get a suitable land and toconstruct a house for the N.M.S. worker.

4) For a cycle to the worker.

5) For the good health of the workers.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan &
Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

Seven people were baptised on 8—9—1985 and added to the C.S I. Church in Kulathupuzha. The baptism service was conducted by the Rev. John Jayaraj.

A convention was held at the Mar Thoma Church in Kulathupuzha (Channanakavu) from 17th to 20th October 1985. Rev. John Jayaraj, Mr. K.G.N. Nair, Mr. Varghese of Trivandrum and Prof. K. J. Thomas, Area Committee President Trivandrum were the speakers. A special meeting was organised for the converts and

enquirers in and around Kulathupuzha, in which the Rev. Philip David of the C.S.I. Church brought the Lord's message.

A team from Trivandrum visited the area and encouraged the evangelists and converts. They also spoke in different meetings. Your prayers are requested for the work in this area.

Jamnamarathur : Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss

They visited several villages and conducted Sunday Services, cottage prayer meetings and distributed tracts to many. Their prayer requests are for the following :

1) For Mr. Govindan and Mr. Damodaran who have accepted Jesus Christ and are ready for baptism.

2) For the hostel girls.

3) For Mr. Krishnamurthy and Mr. Kubendran who are helievers in Jesus Christ but are afraid of their parents and village leaders.

4) For Radha who is possessed with evil spirit and for Banu a widow who is willing to be baptised.

Allery : Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles.

He writes that he visited several villages even in remote places and contacted several persons, told God's message and prayed for them. Several were relieved from their ailments and some bore testimony in the Church and also praised the Lord by their thanks offerings. He also states that some were delivered from the evil spirits and they too gave witness about this deliverance. Day and night classes and church services are conducted regularly. 89 persons were contacted and the Gospel message was imparted to them. For the questions or doubts raised by some, they were replied suitably with reference to the scriptures. Prayer meetings were held in 10 houses and this yielded good results.

Prayers are requested for the believers, for the prayer meetings, for the day and night classes conducted and for the evangelists and their families.

Thongumalai : Mr. & Mrs. Ananda Chandrasekaran.

He states that he visited about 20 villages and preached the Gospel to more than 200. Had an opportunity to meet school

children of Jarthan Kollai Government School and tell them stories from the Bible and teach them to sing. The response was good. The v llage head man of Konoor village Mr. Selvaraj was keen on hearing God's message. Tracts were distributed to those who thronged Sami temple near Thongumalai for annual worship. He reports that some were relieved of the evil spirits after special prayers for them.

He wants our prayers for

1) Village quack doctor of Kottanchutu village for him to accept Jesus Christ.

2) For those who often come for prayers.

3) For the convert Mr. Peter Annamalai and some of his problems.

4) For peace in the life of Mr. Periyaiah Gounder.

5) For the two families that are ready for baptism.

Kattiankudisai : Mr. & Mr. P. Devairakkam

He reports that Mr. Gnanaraj and John Kuppusamy of Kattiankudisai village and who are brothers had their property partitioned. Mr. John Kuppusamy has some enimies. We have to pray for this individual. He requests our prayers for Mr. Vellian who is enmically disposed towards Mr. John Muthusami under a wrong notion.

Gundalathur : Mr. & Mr. Jayaraj Samuel

They visited a large number of women and children and gave God's message in a simple manner so that they can understand. Night classes for youngsters are conducted regularly. Mrs. Jeyaraj reports that she treated 104 patients during the period and many were cured. We need to pray for the patients and for those who heard the Gospel.

Athipet : Mr, & Mrs. O. James Meyyen

He reports that he visited 15 villages and contacted 146 tribal persons. Night schools and Sunday Services are conducted regularly. Open air gospel meetings are held regularly on every Monday and the results are good. It is reported that now and then they have to confront with opposition and we have to thwart it by our prayers. It is also nice to learn that ten persons are being prepared for baptism. All praise to God.

Kaiyanamathai : M. M. Jesudoss

He visited 10 villages, 7 market places and contacted hundreds in their houses. Through these ministries thousand could hear the Gospel message. One lady from Tnimirimarathur village who was possessed by evil spirits, after prayers was somewhat better. Convert Mr. Lakshmanan faces opposition from his family in his marriage proposal to a christian girl and we need to pray for him. Our prayers are requested for Mr. Ekambaram for him to accept Christ, and for Mr. Mark, Mr. John and Mr. Jeyaseelan to join the Bible School as they desire and ultimately become full time evangelists. We also need to pray for the 6 boys who were baptised on 4-8-1985 so that they may be well established in the faith of our Lord.

Nadanoor : Mr. & Mrs. G. A. Raju.

He visited 10 villages and distributed tracts. 71 patients were treated for small ailments. He reports that when Mr. Annamalai and his family members were ready to accept Jesus Christ and be baptised there was a slight set back when Mr. Annamalai's second son expired. We need to remember this family in our prayers.

Erratum

Please see page 14 in the N.M. I. October 1985. In that under the caption "An Urgent Need" for Rs. 1,000/- read as Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand).

ORGANISING SECRETARY

Mr. Henry Victor :

He reports that the Madurai City Area Committee had its one day retreat at Noyes School, Madurai on 2nd October 1985. Rev. Jeyapaul David of Palayamkottai and Dr. E. Selwyn of Ambilakai participated in the retreat.

Their messages were about the N.M.S. work, the need to activise it and the challenges berore us. The Madurai Area Committee President Mr. J. J. Ebenezer, Secretary Mr. Stanley Paul and Treasurer Mr. Abraham S. Rajendran also gave messages on the occasion. The benediction was by C.S.I. Pastor of Athikulam, Madurai.

The following were elected office bearers for the year 1985.

President	:	Mr. J. J. Ebenezer D
Vice President	:	1. Mr. B. Rathnaswamy B.A.B.L.,
		2. Mrs. Gandhi Chellappa
Secretary	:	Prof. T. Stanley Paul M.Sc., M. Phil.,
Joint Secretary	:	Mr. Edward Jeyaraj
Treasurer	:	Prof. Abraham S. Rajendran M.Sc., M.Phil.

Annual Sale :

The Madurai Area Committee had its Annual Sale on 2nd November 1985 at O.C.P.M. Girls Higher Secondary School Madurai The Rt. Rev. Dr. David Gnaniah Pothirajulu, Bishop in Madurai Ramnad Diocese, presided and Dr. Sembon David M D. Professor of Forensic Medicine and Vice President of Madurai Medical College opened the sale. Thanks giving service was held on 3rd November 1985.

Mr. S. Solomon Rajayya :

He has sent a detailed report about the conduct of the Aunual Sale which is briefed below.

The sales festival was conducted on 2nd October 1985 in the premises of St. Peter's Church, Thanjavur. Rev. Ezekiel Durairaj, Rev. Thomas Gurupatham, Rev. E. Jacob, Rev. Charles

Samuel and Rev. Devashayam the presbyter of the local C.S.I., T.E.L.C., & I.E.L.C. Churches gave maximum help for the successful conduct of the sales. Rev. George Gnanamuthu took special efforts to collect donations both in Thajavur & Trichy and he was a source of guidance and help in this important task. Mr. D. W. Herbert, Area Secretary also spared no efforts in seeing to the successful conduct of the sales. For collecting donatious Thanjavur was devided into 16 convenient zones and each zone was put in charge of a respectable Christian member. All the zonal leaders did their job well and this yielded good results.

As a prelude to the sales festival Prof. D. A. Thana Pandian of the Tamil University gave a free classical musical Kalashebam on 29th & 30th of September 1985, wherein he exphasised the need for gospel work.

After a thanks giving service the sales commenced at 2-00 p.m. on 2—10—1985. Rev. Ezekiel Dorairaj President Miss Prema Charles, H.M. Blake Higher Secondary School provided the required furniture. A total amount of Rs. 7623-35 was realised by the sales.

Our prayers for all who co-operated for the success of the salse and the partipants.

Dr. Mary Varghese Wins the 1985 Robert Pierce Award for Christian Service

Dr. Mary Verghcse is a remarkable lady who used her injury and handicap to be of use to mankind, specially bringing inspiration to others who have been disfigured and feel useless.

She was born in Vypeen, Kerala in 1925 and graduated from the Christian Medical College, Vellore in 1952. During her residency in 1954, she was injured in a bus accident which left her paralysed waist downward.

She asked Dr. Brand at that time, "I was wondering on your lectures on rehabilitation, when you said that there was always something a person could do, no matter how badly they were injured or deformed. I have been thinking about it and if you can fix me up I am ready to go back to my job. I have even prayed that this gash on my face would be used by God to bring inspiration to others who have been disfigured."

Dr. Mary Varghese's spine was operated and made rigid and a wheel chair secured for her. Since then she began performing operations on people whose limps were deformed by leprosy.

Her efforts led to the creation of the rehabilitation institute at the Christian Medical College, Vellore in 1966. She drove herself to the limit of her endurance to help the handicapped and leprosy affected patients who flocked to her department. Inspite of her own affliction and pain, being confined to bed constantly, undergoing operations and suffering asthma attacks, she never gave up and the department grew from strength, to strength, becoming a model for other similar departments in the country. In July 1976, she retired from active service and still continues to serve at the CMC inspiring courage and confidence in people coming in contact with her.

—WORLD VISION OF INDIA

OBITUARY

A TRIBUTE TO BISHOP S. K MONDAL

1. It is extremely difficu't to write a balanced eulogy or appreciation to a person of the high calibre like that of Bishop Mondol, whose services to the church do not have an exact parallel. Usually one tend to say to little or too much and an ambience is difficult to find.

2. Shot may be small in stature but his accomplishments in a life time of service are towering. He was ordained as minister in 1921 and was elected Bishop in 1941 at the age of 44, then the youngest ever elected in India. He served as Bishop in Hyderabad for 16 years and then for eight years more as Senior Bishop of New Delhi before he retired in 1965. He was immediately reactivated by the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church and asked to serve the Manila area of the Philippines for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.

3. Bishop S. K. Mondol was the President of the National Missionary Society of India from 1944—1957. During this period the N.M.S had it's Golden Jubilee and it opened 3 new centres for work namely : Nepal, Puri and Jawadhi Hills.

4. Although Shot Mondol was one of the top leaders of India during his service, being associated with Mahatma Gandhi, Nehru and others, his services were extended to all of India's people. During his sixteen years, as Bishop of Hyderabad he baptized over

10,000 people with his own hands; on one occasion alone he baptized 154 babies, he has conducted services in a leper hospital in the Himalayan Mountains and has baptised lepers with his own hands, an experience which he describes as sobering but deeply moving and inspiring.

5. He was a gentle shepherd of the flock of Christ in its true sense (Ezek. 34:16). Through his episcopal administration Bishop Mondol amply fulfilled the missoin of the Saviour by never condemning any one and by always showing mercy (Jn. 3:17; Mt. 8:13; 18-33; Lk. 19:10). Much can be written about his other extraordinary gifts and talents, but the fact that the love and compassion of Jesus Christ permiting the very fabric of his life, ministry, leadership, dealing with the people of all walks of life surpasses them all.

6. In the death of Bishop Shot K. Mondol the Methodist Church has lost a stalwart Christian, an ecumenical Church leader, an eloquent speaker, an exemplary minister, a compassionate shepherd of the Lord's flock, and a loving father. His memory will always be a source of strength and pride to us all. We will, of course, mourn his death. But we will always praise and admire this true man of God with praise and thanks to Him for blessing His Church, the MCSA/MCI with such an outstanding and excellent leader, father, helper and friend.

7. Alas, Bishop S. K. Mondol—a committed Christian, a devout churchman, a dedicated minister, a prominent leader, and a dynamic Bishop—is no more with us. Bishop Mondol was the second national bishop of the MCSA after Bishop Jaswant Rao Chitamber. His name and fame stand out in the history of our church. His very personality spoke of his high calibre. He was especially known for his eloquence and his name was counted among the outstanding international preachers and orators. He proved himself the pride of the Methodist Church and the Indian nation. From my adolescence I longed to have his darshan (see him).

8. When he retired he felt that all the parents should live with their children who could take care of them. But his heart was in Delhi and Hyderabad where he spent the best part of his life.

9. Like all great men, he knew when he would die. He made all the necessary arrangements, including very meticulously the cremation services and burial of his ashes. When he was in Hyderabad he brought a plot of land in the cemetery next to the plot of Rev. Datt. We are informed that his ashes will be buried in this family plot, when Profulla Mondal will fly them to India.

Our prayers are with Mrs. Mondol and family. Though he is no more in our midst, he will always live in our minds.

Our prayers are with Mrs. Mondol and family. Though he is no more in our midst, he will always live in our minds.

10. He always said that one has to think big to achieve the impossible, and there are no small solution to big problems. If we live small we will die small. Surely he was a good and faithful servant of the Lord.

May His soul rest in peace.

R. NATHANIEL,
Hon. Secretary,
Delhi Area Committee.

1. Mrs. White C. Joseph of Trivandrum, entered into eternal rest on August 31st .985. She has played an important role in the growth and functions of the Trivandrum branch for about 35 years.

The funeral service took place on 1st September, immediately after the Church Service at the M. M. Church. The funeral Service was conducted by the Rev. S. Israel and Rev. Kanagaraj. The Trivandrum Area Committee members participated in the Service and spoke about the valuable service rendered by her. Mis. Vilasini White, the Area Secretary is the daughter of Mrs. White C. Joseph.

2. Miss Gnanadikkam of Women's Christian College Madras went to be with the Lord on 4th November 1985. Miss Gnanadikkam was the Vice Principal of Women's Christian College. She was a guiding force in leading many young girls to the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. She was a leader in the Rural Christian Service Camp of the N M.S. and she used to bring her students for the camp.

3. Mrs. S. Shukula, of Kanpur went to be with the Lord on October 28th 1985. She died of heart attack. She was the Principal of Hudderd School and President of the N. M. S. of India Branch in Kanpur. She leaves her Husband Mr. P. K. Shukula and children and grand children.

We praise God for the above friends of the N.M.S. who very actively involved themselves in the work of the N M.S. in their respective places. We also pray for the bereaved ones of their family. Let us also pray that the Lord may raise many more faithful people to fill up the places.

LIST OF DONORS TO "CHRISTMAS CHEERS" DURING 1984-'85

(FROM 1—4—'84 TO 31—3—'85)

	Rs.	P.
Dr S E Paul, Erode	700	00
Mr M J Sargunam, Coimbatore	75	00
Mrs A P Thangammal, Machilipatnam	30	00
Mr Paul David, Jakarta	100	00
Mr I Daniel, West Bengal	100	00
Mrs Saramma Zachariah, Singapore	300	00
Mr S D Collison, Bangalore	10	00
Mr Z Oliver Chelvian, Madras	10	00
Mrs T D Dharma, Faridabad	20	00
Mr & Mrs Y J Robins, Nagercoil	300	00
Mr M Jacob, Madras	5	00
Rev K G S Doriraj, Madras	25	00
Rev Sam D George, Bangalore	100	00
Mr J Wilson Sundararaj, Madras	100	00
Mrs Henry J Otten, Calicut	100	00
Mr S J Abraham, Palayamkottai	20	00
Mr Devasigamani, Secundrabad	20	00
Mr A S Kands, Nileshwar	5	00
Thro Mr J P Ashwal, Organising Secretary	1556	00
Mr J C James, Madras	20	00
Mrs Jeyaraj, Salem	5	00
Mr A Alexander Samuel, Madras	50	00
Mr B H Samuel, Trichi	50	00
Mr S Thomas Bauliah, Madras	100	00
Mr J Barnabas, Madras	20	00
Mr G. Gnanathangiah, Cuddalore	5	00
Mr Henry Clarke, Madras	20	00
Mr N David, Madras	10	00
Mrs Major David, Madras	5	00
Mr J A Ruberts, Bombay	50	00
Mrs A G Ponrani, Selwyn, Arumuganeri	10	00
Dr. (Mrs) Jacinth Augustine, Madras	25	00
Rev V D Sahayam, Madras	10	00
Mrs M Maharaj, Perumalpuram	25	00
Mr Thomas, Calicut	100	00
Mrs R Cheriyan, Calicut	50	00
Miss L S Thomas, Calicut	50	00
Mr Andrew John, Calicut	20	00
Dr I Pichai Robert, Coimbatore	50	00
Mr M D Timothy, Coimbatore	100	00
Mr P V Mathew, Coonoor	10	00
Mr D J Rathnaswamy, Madras	50	00
Mr J John Thomas, Trivellore	25	00
Mr G J Thangaraj, Allur	20	00
Mrs R Mary Sulochana, Karur	50	00
Thro' Miss A Thomas, Calicut	235	00
Mr R Nathaniel, Delhi	50	00
Mr Daniel Yunas, Delhi	25	00
Mr A Barun, Delhi	10	00
Mr Emmanuel Singh, Delhi	5	00
Mrs I R Singh, Delhi	10	00
Thro' Mr Abraham S Rajendran NMS, Madurai Area Committee	3500	00
Mr S Devairakkam, Madras	150	00

	Rs.	P.
Mr Roy Samuel, Madurai	50	00
Mrs Rajini Andrews, Madurai	10	00
Dr K Kurien, Ranipet	50	00
Mr E R Peter, Ranipet	20	00
Mr Thomas Jeyaraj, Madras (In memory of his father Mr Ambrose)	20	00
Thro' Mrs Sathyaraj, Bangalore	500	00
Rev S J C Baynes, Madras	100	00
Mr T S Saravana Gounder, Hubli	50	00
Mr D Rajaratnam, Secunderabad	50	00
Mrs Mercy Devasirvatham, Tuticorin	30	00
Mr T Devasirvatham Mukupeeri	25	00
Mr M D Selvaraj, Madras	150	00
Mrs G Williams, Gota	20	00
Thro Mr Selvaswamidoss, Madras	150	00
Mr T J Abraham, Madras	250	00
Mr Y A Retnadhas. Munar	100	00
Mrs & Mr Nuraj, Madras	100	00
S. Chandra, Madras	20	00
Mr K Isaacs, Vellore	5	00
Mr M Theophilus. Vellore	30	00
Mr Patrick Donald, New Delhi	5	00
Mr I John Rufus, Chittoor	10	00
Mr Y Samuel Charles, Ranipet	25	00
Mr D Jeyasingh Rawlinson, Madras	15	00
Mr R Kumar. Lucknow	25	00
Mr A H Khan, Lucknow	25	00
Mr & Mrs George Cherian	40	D
Mrs M T Chacko	10	D
Mrs K A Philips	10	D
Mrs Abraham Jacob	10	D
Thro' Mrs Edith Victor N M S members of Dindugal branch	1000	00

	Rs.	P.
Rev Paul Sanjeevi, Puri	50	00
Mr A V Ramana	25	00
Mrs R V Laxmi	25	00
Mrs Koteswar	50	00
Mr David Sagar	30	00
Mr S A Ebenezer, Nanganailur	150	00
Mr. I. N. Deenadayalan Madras	10	00
Mr. V. C. Simon Allahabad	10	00
Mr. D. Mitra Calcutta	25	00
Miss L A R Thomas, Allahabad	50	00
Mr Gnanapragasam, Tindivanam	25	00
Mr Qudir, Lucknow	25	00
Mr R J Raja Singh Madras	100	00
Mr Major Sellaraj, Bhatinda	150	00
Mr A Yesudhas, Manavalakurichi	100	00
Mr A Simon, Manavalakurichi	100	00
Mr Y Joy, Manavalakurichi	20	00
Women's Fellowship, Manavalakurichi	150	00
Mrs Annie Daniel, Vellore	5	00
Mr T Victor. Madras	25	00
Mrs L Vincent, Allahabad	100	00
Mr A Selvaraj, Madurai	10	00
Mrs S Mashi Charan, Hyderabad	100	00
Mrs I C Peters, Meerut	20	00
Mr E C Muthu, Madras	50	00
Mrs Lily Gnanaraj, Madras	30	00
Mrs J Pauliah, Tiruchi	50	00
Mr A C Misra. Cuttack	15	00
Mrs Prabha Jesudasan, Nagercoil	50	00
World Redeemers Church Womens fellowship Royapuram	75	00
C S I Ulaga Meetpar Allayam, Royapuram	175	00

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Mr S A Siromani, Tiruchi	25	00
Thro' Mr Solomon Rajayya, Thanjavur	70	00
Karnataka Area	100	00
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Mrs J Balasundaram, Ma dras	10	00
Mr J K Das, Cuttack	10	00
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Nagercoil Church Ladies Missionary Auxiliary	200	00
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Thro' Mr T D Samuel, Nazareth		00
Mr Aruldoss	20	00
Mr P Moses	25	00
Mr Robert John	15	00
Mr James Meyyan	5	00
Mrs Glory Samuel Raj, Tiruchi	10	00

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Mrs & Mr Theodore David Madras	20	00
Mr Daniel Theodore, Madras	10	00
Mrs Vimal Bai, Madras	5	00
Mr S Owen, Madras	5	00
Mr Wenceslous Paul, Madras	25	00
Mrs G Karkada, Udupi	100	00
Thro' Mr E S John, Bangalore	50	00
Thro' Rev George Karunakaran St Paul's Church, Madras	200	00
Thro' Mr M Jayasingh, Neyveli	160	00
Thro' Mr. David Suresh, NMS Madras	350	00
Mr P S Durairaj, Tirunelveli	200	00
Mr Augustine Salians, Penshrut	1000	00
Mr M Aruldoss, Jamanamarathur	27	70
Mr Ananda Chandra Sekaran	13	05
Mr G A Raju	15	00
Mr N Victor Gnanarajan	15	00
Mr T Pappachan	25	00
Thro' Mr T D Samuel, Nazareth	50	00
Thro' Rev J M Jayasingh	100	00

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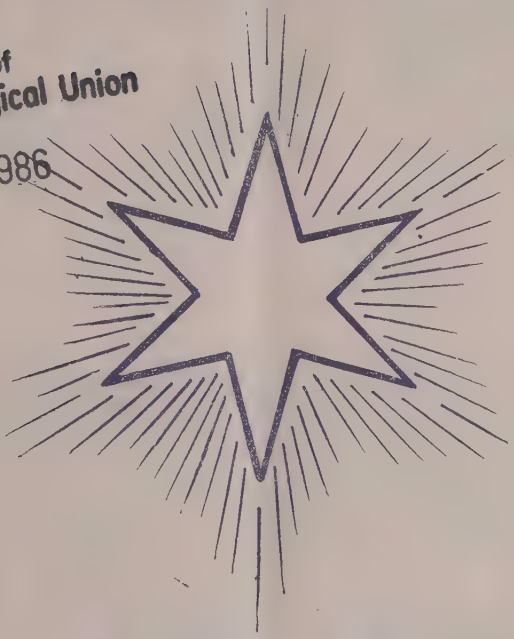
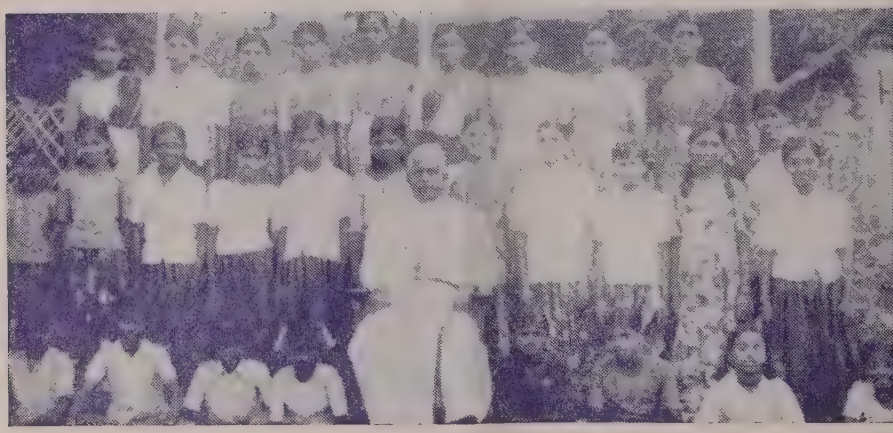


IN THE EAST

We wish you a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year

The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

Rev. R. R. Vyas speaking to young people in Basai



The Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah with the Hostel Children in Jawadhi Hills.

MEDITATION

St. Matthew 2:1-12

Wisemen of the East meeting Jesus

The birth of Jesus was announced to the ordinary and common shepherds by the angels. (Luke 2:8-14).

For the scribes Pharisees and Priests the religious leaders of the time, it was written in the books which they handled daily, but they were unaware of the fact. They were blind folded. They were given the word of God, but the birth of Jesus was announced to the shepherds.

The wisemen of the East had the privilege of learning about the birth of Jesus, the promised King of Jews. It was revealed to them through the star. They expressed it to King Herod saying "We have seen his star in the East" Math. 2:2.

1. Wisemen looking for Jesus in the Kings Palace. Math. 2:2

It was natural to look for the King in the palace, because to them a King for a nation should be born in the Kings palace. Most of the Kings in the kingdom of Israel and Judah were born in the same family. But David the king was from a shepherd's family and himself was a shepherd. Many other incidents can also be cited. It was reasonable to look for the new born king in the palace.

Here it was a wrong place and with a wrong person. They went into the enemy camp to look for Jesus. The troubled king hurriedly called for the Chief Priests and Scribes and enquired about it. Well versed in the Scripture, they said Christ should be born in Bethlehem Vs. 5.

2. Wisemen were directed by the word of God :

The King informed the wisemen what he has got from the word of God. They started out by the Star and landed in the wrong place, but the word of Godguided them. The word of God is necessary for every one in the world. It guides and directs people. As per

the word of God the wisemen moved out of the palace to Bethlehem and they saw a Star again which guided them to the right place where the King of Kings and Lord of Lords was born (Vs. 9). When they saw the Star "They rejoiced with exceeding great joy" (Vs. 10).

Their joy was great, because they found something which they lost. They were lost on the way because they took their eyes away from the star, and used their brain to find Jesus. How often the children of God having found by Him go astray after the world and being lost. When they come back to the love of God, they rejoiced in themselves and shared it with others.

3. Wisemen worshipped the King :

As per the direction given from the word of God through the wicked King, and by seeing the star again, they reached the place, where the King of Kings was born. Vs. 11 says :

they saw the young child with Mary his mother

they fell down before Him

they worshipped Him

they opened their treasures before Him

they presented Him gifts.

They did not come to see Him alone and to present some gifts, although there are several things in seeing a new born baby. But here the major and important factor is to worship Him. Christmas has become more or less a celebration among the Christians and even among non-ehristians. It has to be something more than that. It should remind us of worshipping Him, acknowledge Him as the Creator, King, Lord and Saviour. His greatness has to be acknowledged. Let us meaningfully worship Him in this season when we think about His birth.

4. Wisemen went another way.

Having seen and worshipped the King of Kings, they went another way. They were instructed by King Herod to go back to the palace and they returned back through another way. Vs. 12. Any

one who comes in contact with Christ and having worshipped Him truely, has to have a change in his life. Even after worshipping if there is no change of life, what he has done is of hypocrisy. A true worshiper of Jesus Christ must have a change of heart which results in change of life.

It was in 1973, one of the N.M.S. Organising Secretaries was preaching in a convention in Kerala at a village church. A young college student, who was doing his final year B.A., who was the leader in the college for strikes, and a groomed communist listened to the messages, standing afar off the church. On the fourth day he came to he preacher and had a few minutes of discussion. That night he came to the church. At the close of the sermon an altar call was given. That young man came to the altar surrendering himself to Christ the king. His life was changed. Next day when the college re-opened after Christmas vacation he went to college as a refined and reformed man and was very calm. He did not partake in the student agitations. Noticing His calmness, and seeing Him standing outside the classroom, the Principal summoned him and made enquires. The young boy said that he has a new leader, He is his King and that he is under His instructions. A man who has worshipped Him will have to go through another way. Are we?

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building Fund Donors List.

Omission in N.M.I. Oct. 1985 issue.

Dr. A. M. Daniel, Arjunda —Rs. 2000/-

Note: Certain other omissions have also been brought to notice. These will be verified and published in one of the future issues of the N.M.I. Kindly bear with us.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

ELEVEN months have gone behind and the God of all ages, who said "I am that I am" to Moses is the same. That "I am that I am" loved the world and He gave His only begotton Son to this world and we all remember His birth during this month in Christmas. This is a month which brings in, joy and happiness to every one. Christmas is celebrated throughout the world.

Let us remember the birth of Jesus in a meaningful way and pray that every one may have

the Joy of having Him in our Personal Life.

the Joy of having Him in our family life

the Joy of having Him in our Church's Life

the Joy of having Him in our Society's Life

the Joy of having Him in the Life of our Nation and Nations.

Christmas Cards:

We have the joy of sending Christmas greetings by sending Christmas cards to our friends and relatives. It has to be appreciated because we renew our fellowship and friendship with one another and we also tell them that we remember them.

As I thought about this, I thought it will be better to select a few non-christians and send Christmas cards and a gospel portion, so that they will have the opportunity to know about Jesus Christ. I hope you will try this.

Christmas Gift:

A few of you have contributed for the Christmas Cheers for the N.M.S. workers and on behalf of the N.M.S. I thank you for the same. May the Lord bless you. We shall continue to receive the money for Christmas Gifts.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building:

The building work continues. The work is slow, because of lack of funds. We have taken out almost all the funds we had in the fixed deposits. It requires a minimum of another Rs. 2/- lakhs to complete the work. You are also kindly requested to pray that a proper tenant many occupy the place.

N.M.S. in Eighties:

N.M.S. completes 80 years of service on 25th December '85 in serving the Lord of the Missions in reaching the unreached areas of our country with the Gospel

of Jesus Christ through the Churches and on behalf of the Churches of this land. Truely the N.M.S. is a missionary arm of the Indian Church.

All of us will be very busily, engaged in celebrating the Christmas and I would plead with you to remember the N.M.S. on it's birthday and to.

1. Thank God for this Organisation.

2. Praise Him for all the people who served in different Capacities.

3. Pray for the Society and it's work which it has under taken.

ON BEHALF OF THE EXE CUTIVE COMMITTEE, THE OFFICE STAFF AND FAMILY "I WISH YOU ALL A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS".

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS

(1) Please pray for the Christmas programmes which are planned in almost all the eentres so that the people who hear the Gospel during the Christmas programmes may accept Jesus as thelr own Lord and Saviour.

(2) The N.M.S. has decided to appoint two more Evangelists for the field from first of Jan. 1986 one for Karnataka and another for Madhya Pradesh.

(3) N.M.S. needs more Evangelists to be sent to different stations.

(4) Praise God for supplying the needed funds for the work and also pray that God may raise up more supporting groups to support the missionary work.

(5) Please pray for the missionary Dedication Service at Ethavillai in Kaniyakumari District. Mr. M. P. Andrews who is working at Pudur Nadu in Jawadhi Hills will be dedicated as the missionary of the Ethavillai Church.

(6) Please pray for the completion of the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building, for the needed funds aad for proper tenant to occupy the place.

FIELD REPORT

Athipet : Mrs. & Mr. James Meyyan.

They have visited 21 villages and contacted 116 persons and preached the Gospel. Being the harvest season, the response from the villages in hearing God's message was not quite good. However, they met people even at the thrashing yards and conveyed the good message. It is reported that most of the people are victims of leading debaucherous life drunkennesrs, idolworship and several other vices. The opposition to the preaching of the Gospel in mounting day by day. The new converts are not regular in attending church services. Inspite of all these odds, the evangelists are doing their work by the guidance of our Lord. Mr. Gabriel Govindan and certain others are giving all sorts of trouble to the evangelists, their house is being stoned, children coming to night schools are threatened, electric connection to the N.M.S. Compound is often snapped and several such things are a routine affair. Mr. James Meyyan reports that on 6th Nov. 1985, Mr. Venkatesan brother of convert Miss Ether Mangai tried his best to murder him and his family members out of malice. But God saved them miraculously from the evil designs of the person. Let us thank God for having protected this evangelist and his family and pray that they may not be disheartened but face the challenges bravely and march forward in their work by the guiding hand of our Lord.

Gundalathur : Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel.

Night schools are conducted regularly and those attending are preached the gospel message and small stories by which they can understand the message. Tracts were distributed in the villages in and around Gundalthur and God's message was taken to them. One Murugian evinced keen interest and we need to pray for him to accept Christ. One hundred and forty three persons were treated for headache, fever, dysentry etc. and many were healed. As this was done with trust and faith in God, the results were good.

Veerappannur : Mrs. & Mr. Robert John.

He reports that he visited 15 villages and preached the Gospel. Visited Chinnathai of Veerappannur, wife of Kuppan of Idayanur and wife of Kaliyan of Pudupattu in their houses and prayed for their illness. He reports that God gave them good health.

Kalyanamanthai : Mrs. & Mrs. M. Jesudoss

In spite of his ill health he was able to visit 17 villages and 4 Shandies, distributed tracts and preach the gospel and he is confi-

dent that the Gospel message would have touched large numbers. Prayer needed for a girl in Paravakottai and a woman in Thimirimarathur who are possessed with evil spirit. Convert Sundersingh was cheated and taken to Kodugu land (Karnataka) as a bonded labourer. No peace in the family since then and prayers needed for his early return. The family of one Chinnappayan, student Selvaraj and Natarajan want to be baptised. Prayers needed that they may establish themselves in God.

Nadanur : Mrs. & Mr. G. A. Raju.

Mr. Raju got married on 14th Oct. 1985. Now his partner in life is also accompanying him to the villages for preaching the Gospel. Let us trust in God that this couple will work with redoubled vigour and win many souls for Christ.

Kattiyakudisai : Mrs. &. Mr. P. Devairakkam.

During the month both suffered from sever fever. The prayers by them, the believers and the school children were heard by our Lord and they were completely cured. In spite of the set back in their health, they were able to visit 12 villages and contact 220 persons and preach the Gospel.

Kandili : Rev. & Mrs. Thiraviam

They visited 25 villlages and distributed tracts in large numbers. In some of the villages they visited, they saw people assembled in groups and hearing the Geetha and other mythological stories told by some persons. To one such leader a gospel pamphlet titled 'way to peace' was given and God's message was also told to him. In Kandili-Karagapatti and surrounding areas several small Hindu temples have sprung up and festivals and bajans are conducted very often attracting people in large numbers. Even in such an atmostphere there is no stoping in carrying God's message to the people... We need to pray for these Evangelists to face the ordeals boldly in His Holy Name.

Ten persons were ready to be baptised but due to the threats by relatives and others some have backed out.At present three have accepted Jesus Christ and are ready for baptism. Of them Mr. Pragasam is subiected to all sorts of threats and abuses by the villagers, so that he may not come forward for baptism. Dr. Kanagaraj, Selvi, Prema and Mr. Gnanasekaran are ready for baptism. All the above mentioned persons are to be remembered in our prayers.

Puri—Orissa : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mr. Daud Sagar, Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi, Mr. R. V. Ramana & Mrs. Mariamma Kotteswara Rao.

They contacted 29 people and distributed 271 tracts. School work and prayer meetings are conducted as programmed. It is good news to learn that even Hindu people are attending the prayer meetings.

Thongumalai : Mrs. & Mr. Ananda Chandrasekaran.

It is with great grief and regret that we have to bring to the notice of the readers that the evangelist's son Master Deenadayalan aged $3\frac{1}{2}$ years was suddenly called by Him on 14th Nov. 1985. This little boy went to bed after prayers on the night of 13th. In the early morning he complained of stomach pain and when the parents were just preparing to take him to the hospital he suddenly collapsed. They report that the loss is unberable. We have to pray that God may console them and give them necessary strength and peace of mind to do His work inspite of the challanges.

Allery : Mrs. & Mr. P. A. Charles.

They have visited several interior villages and preached the Gospel of God. Day and night schools and Sunday classes are conducted regularly. Several persons wanted to pray for their illness. The prayers were heard by our Lord and they were healed from their illness. This has made them to come closer to God in their belief. Prayers are requested for Ramasamy, Chinnapaiyan, Annamalai and Priyasami of Maruthalimedu village. On the whole they visited 21 villages and contacted 95 persons individually The response was so good that the villagers wanted the evangelists to visit them at frequent intervals.

Basai—U. P. : Mr. Stanley Mohan, Mr. Dhayananthan, Mr. Moses & Mr. P. C. Singh.

Mr. P. Moses and Mr. P. C. Singh participated in the World Map Seminar in Delhi. They report that there is good response to the Gospel message in the villages Criskoli, Guvavali and Pichore Their prayer request is to pray for the seekers Ahed Beig Mirza in Pichore, Virendra Kumar Palhak and Sisu passing in Pichore, Sankal Dhayal in Basai, Birendra Kumar Jain in Naayakeda.

Lukkimpurkheri : Mrs. & Mr. Sampath James

He reports that one Mr. Israel a muslim residing at Maharaj Nagar once asked several unnecessary questions and spoke ill about

the organisation. He was replied suitably and told about the love of God. Mr. Ramdash Sharma of Akbar who wanted to know about Christianity put several searching questions. His friends also joined with him. They were shown relevant passages from the Bible to meet their questions and they came to know about Jesus Christ. Mr. Ram Misra who wanted to know more about Christ was given a New Testament. After reading it he had expressed that he had came to know of many hidden truths. We have to remember the above persons in our prayers.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mrs, & Mr. T. Pappachan & Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

They continue to visit the Tamils from Srilanka settled down in Rubber Plantation areas and the Tribals of the area. Regular Bible classes are being conducted for the converts who were baptised, to strengthen them in their spiritual life. There are a few enquirers from Munnanakuzhi (three elephant pit) There is opposition in that area. Please pray that they may stand firm in their faith, and come forward to take baptism and to join the church.

Gospel portions and tracts are regularly distributed. Please pray that the spirit of God may continue to work in this area.

Jamnamacathur : Mrs. & Mr. M. Aruldoss

Please pray for the hostel children so that they may grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Since the Christmas season has started, we are preparing the children for the Christmas programmes, memorizing verses, learning stick dances and other items etc.

Please pray for Govindasamy and Kannan. They are being prepared for baptism.

Please pray for Miss. Ranjani as she is suffering from the possession of evil spirit.

Please pray for Annamalai of Gunnikanthery. He is a leper and he is poor.

Pray for Mr. Govindan's family. He took baptism. His wife Chandra and his mother Unnamalai are being prepared for baptism.

Please pray for "Edward Methusalah" son of Mr. Thavamony. He is a 18 years old boy possessed with some evil spirits. Seldom he stays in home. He leaves his parents secretly and goes roaming around the village in Jawadhi Hills. His parents are worried about him. Please uphold him in your prayers.

THE TRIVANDRUM AREA COMMITTEE

The Trivandrum unit was formed as early as 1910, with two young sisters, Miss Mary Isaac and Miss Siromani Isaac, as Joint Secretaries. (The former was called to eternal rest in 1983). In the beginning it was functioning as a ladies Auxiliary Unit for prayer and collecting donations to be sent to the Head Quarters. This small unit continued to function till about 1925, when it was raised to the level of a branch. Dr. (Mrs.) Lukose, the then Durbar Physician to the Govt. of Travancore, was the first President of the Trivandrum Branch. Soon there was tremendous growth of the Branch. When Dr. (Mrs.) Lukose relinquished office, Mr. D. Vedamuthu, General Manager, State Bank of Travancore took over as President. His devout nature and true Christian life were a great strength to many. The next President of the Trivandrum Branch was Mr. Gunamoni, Income Tax Commissioner to the Govt. of Travancore who continued till 1950. During this period Mr. K. P. Thomas and Mrs. Kurien George were joint Secretaries. Following the retirement of Mr. Gunamoni from office, Mr. S. J. Silas, was nominated as the President. The branch had a significant development during this period; members from the M. M. Church, Marthoma Church and the Christ Church were nominated to the Executive Committee. The fund raising campaign was started every year regularly, and the Trivandrum Branch took up responsibility of supporting one missionary at Jawadhi Hills in Tamilnad.

M/s Paul Shastry and Harris Fletcher were Secretary and joint Secretary respectively and they have contributed much for the growth, development and progress of the Branch. When Mr. Harris Fletcher left the office, Mr. Japamony and Mrs. Mitchell Daniel were nominated as Joint Secretaries. In the year 1982, Mr. Paul Sasthri was called to eternal rest. Miss Vilasini White member of the Executive Committee was unanimously nominated as the Secretary.

After Mr. S. J. Silas left responsibility as President, Mr. G. George, Retired Deputy Chief Engineer (PWD) took over as President. The Trivandrum Branch had the unique privilege of hosting the All India Executive Committee Meeting in the year 1976, under the patronage of the late Most Rev. Juhanon Marthoma, Metropolitan of the Marthoma Church. The Trivandrum Branch accepted the recommendation of the All India Executive Committee to support a missionary in Kashmir, a newly formed field of the N.M.S.

Towards the end of 1984, our President, Mr. George, was called to eternal rest and the chair was vacant for some months. In June 1985, Prof. K. J. Thomas, Mar Ivanious College, Trivandrum was unanimously nominated as the President and he is continuing to hold h tat office.

The Trivandrum Area regularly holds Cottage Prayer Meetings every month, N.M.S. Week Celebrations in October every year and a Public Meeting and Fancy Sale in November. The annual Financial Campaign is a regular feature which is carried out during the months October to March every year. We are thankful to all our friends and well wishers for their unstinted support and co-operation all these years in a big way. It is their prayer and donations, which help us carry on our Mission and fulfil our financial obligation to the Head Quarters. We are indeed grateful to Almighty God for all His blessings and guidance all these years. Efforts are being taken to bring out a spiritual revival among the members first and then to carry that torch to the people among whom we work.

In connection with the Platinum Jubilee of the N.M.S. of India, in 1980, the Trivandrum Branch took up a new field at Kulathupuzha, a hilly area about 90 kilometers, North East of Trivandrum. A project report on this was submitted by Prof. K. J. Thomas, then an active member of the Area Executive Committee. The Committee unanimously accepted the project and recommended to the National Council, which gladly gave the green signal. In 1981, Shri T. Pappachen was appointed Missionary for Kulathupuzha, to work among the Adivasis (Hill Tribes) and Tamil Repartriates from Sri Lanka. His work was so effective and blessed by the Lord that 9 persons accepted the Lord Jesus and they were baptised in the C.S.I. Church at Kulathupuzha in 1981. The Trivandrum branch was subsequently raised to the status of Area and the Kulathupuzha Project was handed over to the responsibility of the Head Quarters. In 1984, one family of 6 members and early this October, 2 families also joined the Church after baptism. Since the year 1984, Shri Stephen Purushothaman is also working at Kulathupuzha along with Shri Pappachan. A few more families are now ready for baptism, at the moment. Praise the Lord.

Platinum Jubilee of the Trivandrum Area

In connection with the Platinum Jubilee of the Trivandrum Area a Special Convention was arranged at the Salem Marthoma Church, Chandanakavu in Kulathupuzha by Rev. J. Jayaraj, Organising Secretary of the N.M.S. from Kerala, under the auspices of the N.M.S. from 17th to 20th of October, 1985. A Gospel Team of the Area, led by Prof. K. J. Thomas, our President and consisting of M/s K. J. George, K. K. Koshy and Stewart Singh went over there and gave leadership for two days, on the 19th and 20th. Our President spoke from the word of God on both these days. The Convention was a great blessing and encouragement to all, especially the new believers who joined the Church, thanks to Rev. C. K. Titus, Vicar of the Salem Marthoma Church, Kulathupuzha, without whose unstinted support and guidance, this Convention would not have been possible. Our members preached at various C.S.I. and Marthoma Churches at Trivandrum and Kulathupuzha.

The Platinum Jubilee Celebration has been planned to be held during the third week of November, 1985 and the Committee earnestly prays for God's special blessings on the occasion. Fully believing in the motto of the Society—"Expect great things from God-Attempt great things for God" we have to go forward as one body, one mind and one soul. We have a great task ahead of us in the years to come—evangelisation of our great country. Let us fulfil this task and pave the way for the second coming of Jesus.

(Reprinted from the Souvenir published by the Trivandrum Area Committee on the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on 22nd and 23rd November 1985).

OBITUARY

Mr. Stevens Daniel youngest son of Mr. S. J. Job Daniel Retired Assistant Director of Income Tax, Ashok Nagar, Madras, went to be with the Lord on 4th December 1985. Mr. Job Daniel is

doing God's work in a great way, He and his family members are ardent supporters of the N.M.S. May God give peace to the bereaved family.

Mrs. Jothi George Gnanamuthu believed W/o. Rev. George Gnanamuthu, Thanjavur had her home call on 2nd December 1985. As is well known Rev. George Gnanamuthu is actively involved. in the N.M.S.I. in various capacities. His wife gave him a helping hand in his ministry throughout. Let us specially remember Rev. George Gnanamuthu in our prayers that the Lord God comfort and console him.

TAMILNADU THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,

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will be offering the following courses from June 1986

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Those interested are adviced to contact the Principal for further details.

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COIMBATORE BRANCH CONDUCTS A RALLY

on 7th January 1986.
Time : 6-30 p. m. at

Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church, Coimbatore

Message :

Rev. GEORGE GNANAMUTHU

Missionaries would be participating and presenting the Field News.

THE COIMBATORE BRANCH HOLDS ITS ANNUAL SALE

on 12th January 1986 at 2-30 p.m.

at C. S. I. Christ Church, Gandhipuram.

Rev. ROY MARTIN would share the message
(Former Presbyter All Souls Church)

Prayers are solicited for the Speakers and arrangements.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. E. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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JUN 16 1986

The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 79 80 JANUARY 1986 No. 1

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7. Urgent Need

We wish the N. M. S. Members and Friends a Blessed Useful and Fruitful New Year.

The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

Peter in Action (Continued)

Peter in Prison :

Chapter 11 explains to us of Peter explaining to the apostles and disciples, how the non-jewes have accepted the Lord. (You may kindly read chapter 11 for yourself).

Herod Kills Jacob :

Chapter 12: 1-2 narrates the beginning of persecution which was brought upon the church in Jerusalem. It was from the government. Destruction of the church was his main aim. Jacob the brother of John was murdered by King Herod.

Herod imprisons Peter : Vs. 3-4

Once, when he found, it pleased the Jews, Herod proceeded further to lay his hands on Peter. An action of his pleased others which brought satisfaction and courage to continue in the same life. Praises of men lift the men in authority who are public people. It is worthy to praise God for the people who have done good to people, but here Herod was praised for the murder of an innocent man. Herod's action pleased people and not God. Do we try to please people by our own sinfulness ? Wc find him praised in Acts 12: 21-22, where he was praised and the end of him came suddenly. No man is worthy enough to take the praises of men. What is due unto God must be given to Him and Him alone.

In his next step to please people he imprisoned Peter the leader, the spokesman of the disciples. A certain number of soldiers were ordered to watch over him. He was kept under tight security. He has done this to please the Jews. Are we doing anything to please people or even ourselves which is against the will of God ?

Prayer for the prisoner and God's action : Vs. 5.

As Peter was kept in prison under the watchful eyes of the soldiers, the church was kept awakened in looking to the eyes of God, who keeps His children as the apple of His eye. "But prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him"-Vs. 5. As the news spread, the church met together and continued praying to God without ceasing. We have heard as such :—Prayer is the key which opens the heaven's doors, prayer changes things, prayer moves the heart of God, and God answers our prayers.

The church's concern for its members revealed, which the present day church fails to express its agony, when a church member is in trouble.

Here is an example of how the prayer was answered :

Vs. 6-Peter was sleeping in between the soldiers, bound with chains and the other soldiers watched him standing at the door. Please note the steps in which Peter was delivered from the hands of the evil one.

Vs. 7 - The angel of the Lord came upon him.

Light shined in the prison.

He smote Peter on the side and raised him.

He commanded to him to rise up quickly.

And his chains fell off from his hands.

Vs. 8 - The angel of the Lord instructed him as follows :

1. to gird himself
2. to put on his sandals
3. to cast his garment about him
4. to follow him.

The angel of the Lord enters in the place, where the doors were closed, watched by the soldiers and chained by the orders of King Herod. He comes to the rescue of His childran in an unpredicted way.

Vs. 9 - Peter in obedience :

1. went out with him
2. followed him
3. Peter thought he was seeing a vision.

Prisoner's deliverance : Vs: 10-11

a) Angel of the Lord before him :

Peter was led to the 1st and 2nd gates, but it is stated, they come to the iron gate, which was leading to the city and it opened to

them at its own accord. Nothing can prevent a child of God if he is led by the spirit of God and if he is in obedience to the will of God. The angel of the Lord went before Peter and led him out of the city and particularly to a street through which Peter has to go.

b) Peter came to realizing deliverance :

Peter was able to realise that he was delivered only after the Angel departed from him. Till then he was thinking, it was only a vision. God had delivered him from the hands of Herod and the expectations of jews. When Jacob was killed, God did not allow Peter to be killed and the church to be destroyed. Vs. 18 & 19 explains to us how the soldiers were in trouble and Herod was disappointed and took revenge on the soldiers.

Prisoner released to join the praying group : Vs. 12-19.

Peter went to the house of Mary, where many have gathered together for praying for the release of Peter from the prison. Deliverance of Peter from the prison was an unbelievable matter for the group. When they saw him they were astonished. Peter explained to them how the Lord brought out the deliverance.

Are we in trouble ? Are we helpless ? Have all our efforts failed to get justice ? The only way is to look to God in prayer. He will surely bring out deliverance.

Thers is nothing impossible with Him. Are we willing to surrender our problems to Him for the deliverance in His own way. He will never put His children in shame.

Herod arrested Peter.

Church prayed ceaselessly.

Angel of the Lord came down and led him to the city.

Peter joined the church in sharing the message.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Over! What? Another Christmas season and a New Year day ! Yes, the functions and celebrations in churches and houses are over . A little boy travelling in the train on 30th December '85 was narrating a story to another boy. He said, "I saw a big fat old man lying on the ground. "Do you know his name? asked the boy. His age was 365 and his name was 1985. He died? ? ? ? According to the little boy the chapter ends there.

No it has to be continued and immediately, the church bells announced a New man is born and his name is 1986. Yes, we are in 1986 and to face this 1986. How to face this unknown year. As I thought about this year, I was reminded about Psalms 121 in which the psalmist begins with the words: "I will lift up mine eyes ....." and closes the Psalm with the following words: "I will keep thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth and for evermore". We are called to look to Him for help, when troubled and confused. He is the source of strength.

Christmas Cheers:

Members and friends of the Society responded to the appeals and contributed for Christmas cheers and the Society was able to give Rs. 250/- each to the workers of the society.

P. J. M. Building:

The Platinum Jubilee Memorial building work is nearing completion (ground floor and 1st floor), but we have no funds to settle the bills.

New Missionaries:

Mr. & Mrs. Prabhudas from K. G. F. have gone to Hittnahalli to work with the NMS and Mr. & Mrs. Jude Antony have joined the Society to work at Silpahari in Madhya Pradesh.

Missionary Dedication:

Mr. M. P. Andrews, working at Pudur Nadu in Jawadhi Hills was introduced and dedicated at the CSI Eathavilai on the 29th Dec. '85. The Eathavilai friends will support the missionary. (detailed report in another page of this issue).

I wish and pray that many more churches and groups may come forward to support the work of NMS and we may be able to send out many more evangelists during the year.

Kavalur Observatory in Jawadhi Hills:

Our Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi inaugurated Asia's biggest Telescope at Kavalur on the 6th January 1986. This observatory is in Jawadhi Hills in Tamilnadu, where the NMS is working. It is on the way to Jamnamarathur.

Today's Trends:

The trends in every aspect of our life is to safe-guard our own interests; but we need to caution ourselves to be freed from self-centredness. Let everyone seek not his own interest but attempt to help others, who are in need.

Money and Materials:

Achieving money and material have become the main motive of many of us and of the world. People use different methods to achieve this. Someone who tries to make money and materials through improper ways need to realize that first of all he cheats himself. Secondly, he tries to cheat God, who is his maker and who knows him. Thirdly, he believes that he has cheated his neighbour, his church, his organisation. Such people need to realize that ultimately, they have cheated themselves. All what we have accumulated in this world will not go with us when we retire from this life to the life eternal. So our attitude to the money and materials need to be changed. Recently, an evangelist expressed that he was able to accumulate all these material blessings, because God has blessed him and others do not have, because God has not blessed them. This is a wrong concept. He goes for preaching for material things and it is his business. Such people become independent and say, "I am an independent evangelist" and later make their own independent organisations. Are they not independent even from God? Where are we at the beginning of this year?

What should be our sole concern:

Marketing the goods, best goods to the people, we have the goods of salvation and we need to market it. We have stored it for ourselves for years together. How long will we wait to market it? Should we wait till the Lord returns? We are not commanded to wait till that day, but to proclaim. Take the goods of salvation which we have received freely to the people freely. It will cost

ourselves, our time, our money and talents. Spend them for Him. Let us be burnt out for Him and His cause. Let the spirit of God take control of us so that our sole concern will be in spreading His good news.

International Year of Peace :

The news papers have carried the news that 1986 will be an year of international peace. Will this good idea remain only in speech and in paper? We read in the news paper as Tamils shot in Sri Lanka, U. S. and Israeli military ships are prepared to attack Lybia, Lebanon continues to be rocked by bombs etc. Where is peace? World leaders, Church leaders speak of peace, but is there peace within themselves? Peace in the individual life from God which passes all understanding need to over rule the minds of everyone. Then there will be peace in the home, in the Society and in the Nations.

N.M.S. is 81 :

The NMS was formed in the year 1905 and it completed 80 years of service. We are called to Praise Him. There were ups and downs, victories and failures, times of sorrows and rejoicing and yet the Lord preserved the Society from destruction. Let us praise Him for the founders, and all those who have served the Society in different capacities. The members and friends are requested to pray for the people who serve Him through the Society and for the work which is ahead of us.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His service

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

DEDICATION SERVICE

Mr. M. P. Andrews, evange list at Pudurnad in Jawadhi Hillswas dedicated for missionary work in NMS at the CSI Church in Eathavilai at 7 P.M. on 29th December 1985. The dedication service was conducted by the pastor Rev. I. Nehemiah. Mr. John Rose Vedasingh, the secretary of the NMS branch, Eathavilai organised this programme. They also contributed Rs. 5869/- for the work in Pudur Nadu.

The Diocesan council secretary Mr. N. Dennis M. P. who was present at the occasion spoke a few words about what it means to be a missionary. Rev. N. Victor, Promotional Secretary of the K. K. Diocesan Missionary Prayer Band, Rev. A. Yesudhas and Rev. D. Samuel Durai of the London Mission Church Kodamalaikurtou brought the greetings.

The NMS General Secretary Rev. J. M. Jeyasingh spoke about the work of NMS and brought the Lord's message.

Prof. Y. Packiamony, the Area Secretary and Mr. Victor Henry the Organising Secretary were present and they preached at the Sunday Service on 29th and in the other meetings. The NMS is thankful to the Church committee and the friends in and around Eathavilai for supporting the work of the NMS.

CHURCH NEWS

The Church of South India had it's Synod in Trivandrum from 11th—15 of Jan. 1986.

The Synod reelected the Most Rev. I. Jesudason as the Moderator of the C. S. I. for the third term.

It elected the Rt. Rev. Victor Premsagar, Bishop of Medak diocese as the Deputy Moderator.

The Rev. M. Azariah, was reelected as the General Secretary for the third term.

Mr. K. J. Victor David was elected as the Synod Treasurer.

The N. M S. congratulates the office bearers of the Synod and prays for them.

FIELD REPORT

Orissa : Mr. Daud Saugar.

He reports that he is continuing to do school work and evening prayer meetings regularly. Hindus are also attending the prayer meetings. He says that some people who were in the first instance interested in hearing about Jesus Christ are reverting back to their old faith and this has made him feel discouraged. Let us pray that this evangelist may not be discouraged in his work by such occasional events. Prayers are also needed for the two girls who have accepted Christ and are ready to be baptised.

Puri—Orissa : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi.

He was deputed to Hyderabad during the month for evangelical work. Revival meetings were held from 28th Nov. to 1st Dec. '85, when Mr. Ponraj Isaac gave God's message. By God's grace eight persons in his area are to be baptised shortly. We need to pray for them.

Jhansi : Mr. Stanly Mohan, Moses, Dhyananthan & P. C. Singh.

They have started a cottage prayer meeting in Matalita. Mr. Rajesh H. Shering and his family members render all help and cooperation in conducting the prayer meetings. Through these prayer meetings God's message is taken to many non-christians also. A film strip was purchased from Caravans and this has been very useful during the Christmas season and the response from the villages is good.

Nadanoor : Mr. G. A. Raju.

Visited more than 20 villages, distributed tracts and conducted open air meetings. About 101 persons were treated for small ailments. God's message was also told while treating them. Children were taught songs, verses from Bible, Kolottam etc. in preparation for Christmas. Some students are prepared to accept Jesus Christ as their saviour. During the month some members from St. John's Church visited the village and participated in the church services and encouraged the evangelists.

Kalyanamandai : Mr. M. Jesudoss.

He reports the following and requests the readers to pray for them.

1) Mr. Vellayan of Thoppur who is an addict and smoker has come forward to accept Jesus. Pray that he may be firm in his faith.

2) For the enquires and seekers in Cheiakottai, Palamarathur and Kalyanamandai villages.

3) God relieved a girl of the evil spirit, and a child was saved from death bed.

4) For the conversion of Mr. Annamalai.

5) For those who were baptised but back sliden.

Veerappanoor : Mr. Robert John.

Visited 16 villages and preached God's message to several persons. Mangai, Amara, Poosi, Govindan and Selvi of Veerappanoor suffered from severe fever & headache. When the evangelists prayed for them, God cured them. Prayers needed for Kuppan of Theetham village who is possessed of evil spirit, so that he may be relieved of it and accept Christ.

Kattiankudisai : Mr. P. Devairakkam.

This evangelist wants us to pray for the following.

1) A student Annamanam who has fractured his left hand while playing.

2) Santhosh Raj a convert before going to get his document written for the purchase of a land, prayed and wanted that his wife may also accept Christ.

3) Mr. Chinnasamy and Mani of Plantpattor are prepared for baptism. Pray that they may not be confronted with objection from their parents, relatives and village community.

Athipet : Mr. G. James Meyyan.

Visited 13 villages and contacted 79 hill tribes. As reported in an earlier issue this evangelist was saved from the hands of some unscrupulous elements who wanted to do away with him and his family. Mr. Jeya and Mr. Vincent from Tirapathur visited Athipathu and were with the evangelist in prayer for an hour. Ferwent prayers required for the protection of this evangelist and family from all evil forces.

Kandili—Karagapathi: Rev. Thiraviam & Mrs. Pushpa Thiraviam.

Visited several villages and specially concentrated in 10 villages. Distributed hundreds of tracts and 3 new testaments. Mrs. Banu wife of Mr. H. O. Venkataraman, BDO, Kandili was under the influence of evil spirit. There was no cure even though she was taken to several temples. The evangelist went to the B.D.O's house and he along with 10 others prayed for the girl. Thank God the prayers were heard and the girl is now alright. Remember this family in your prayers.

Kumudha of Kajilnaickampatti village was possessed by evil spirit and was speechless. Hospital treatment did not relieve her of the evil spirit. The evangelist visited her house and prayed for her and also for another Jamuna who was also a victim of the evil spirit. Prabha of Kenyapatti after hearing the gospel message has firm faith in Jesus Christ and is ready to accept Him. But there is great opposition to this from the family. Let us pray that God may break the barriers and enable her to accept Christ as her saviour.

Veeranamalai: Mr. Velmurugan.

He is working among the hill tribes and Lambodies. These people are victims of several evil habits and are slaves to them. The evangelist is learning the Lambadi and Telugu language which are very essential for doing His work in this part in a mighty way. The evangelist is confident that soon several among the tribes may acccept Christ. Let us pray that the year 1986 may see a revival in these parts.

Jamnamarathur—Mr. & Mrs Aruldoss

During the Christmas season the local church as a team visited different villages and sang carol songs and proclaimed Christmas message. On 23rd December 1985 a special procession was taken out to Vellikottai and to Jamnamarathur. Mr. Dhavamany, Mr. Aruldoss and Mr Devanesan deilvered the Christmas message in Veilikottai and Jamnamarathur. Please pray for the opening of a new mission field at Kavaloor which is in between Alayalayam and Jamnamarathur.

A megaphone is needed for their open air meetings. Pray for people who heard the gospel message and received tracts.

Praise God for the successful Christmas programme conducted on 24th evening. About 135 people participated and for the grand procession taken out which helped in witnessing our Lord.

Tanjore : Miss Kokila Rebecca

Miss Kokila reports that she visited the following villages : Kalimedu, Nedar, Ammanpettai, Annanagar, Jebamalaipuram, Alakudi, Neivasal, Vasthath Chawadi, Kanpathy Nagar.

During the last three months, she has visited the sick people in the hospital and visited many homes and presented the gospel to the people along with Tanjore Gospel Team (Miss Kokila will be sent to the mission field in the near future)

Gundalathur—Mr. & Mrs. Jayaraj Samuel

They report that during Christmas and New Year services young people took part and gave their witnesses. Prizes were distributed to the children. One girl named Jeya was seriously ill and she was treated. God healed her and because of her the whole family has come to hear the Gospel. Please pray for the whole family and who listen to the Gospel message.

Liudh lyna—Miss Salina Rakha : Miss Salina Rakha reports that she distributed 14 New Testaments in Punjabi and Hindi, four Bibles and quite a number of tracts. She has visited the sick people in the hospital and conveyed the good news of tne Salvation to the patients. She also reports two people were delivered from the possession of evil spirits. She is also visiting a leper colony. Please pray for the converts in Ludhiana.

Thongumalai : Mr. A. Chandrasekaran.

He reports that he visited the houses of each one of the new converts on the eve of Christmas day and shared with them the Christmas message. Besides this, in all the villages he visited he made it a point to give the message about the birth of Christ and this was well received by the villagers and some came to him and specially requested, him to pray for them.

Mr. & Mrs. P. A. Charles—Allery.

Visited 18 villages and personally contacted 82 persons, ascertained their needs and sufferings and specially prayed for them. Prayer meetings were held in seven houses Let us pray that these contacts may yield good results and the believers accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Lukkimpurkheri : Mr. & Mrs. Sampath James

Mr. Sampath James reports that he has visited a new village called Ganeshpur which is 14 K. M away from Lukkimpur. After hearing the ministry of Jesus Christ the people of the village expressed that they have not heard about Jesus. Mr Thaba of this village an elderly man expressed that he has heard about many gods who came to this world and who had many wives and who did many things, but all had died He has nor heard about the God who did so many miracles and who raised the dead and who has forgiven our sins and who died for the sins of the world and was resurrected. He also asked "Did he die for me and is He still alive and will He come into my heart ?" He also requested to pray for him so that he may accept Jesus as His Lord and Saviour He is being contacted regularly. One Mr Prakash Chand expressed that he has no satisfaction or peace and joy in his life Please pray that he may accept Jesus. He was given the Gospel portions. Dr Bajarajsingh has received a new testament. Mr. Sampath James is regularly contacting a Municipal Officer who attends the service once in a while. A Muslim friend called Mr. Nahim has expressed that he believes in Jesus as the only God. You are kindly requested to pray for the above persons and for the contacts made in and around Lukkimpurkheri.

PASTORATE UNIT INAUGURATION

A pastorate unit of the Vellore Diocese was inaugurated on 7th December 1985 at Jamnamarathur by the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, the Bishop of Vellore Diocese. This unit is comprised of the believers by the work of the NMS and a few Christians who are working in Government institutions. There are about 300 converts in this area.

All the converts in Jawadhi Hills were handed over to the Vellore Diocese as NMS is not a church. But the NMS continues its evangelistic, educational and medical work in this area.

The NMS started the work in the Hills in 1957 and only in the recent years the people have responded to the gospel and continue to respond to the Gospel. The Diocese has appointed a seven member ad hoc committee to maintain the affairs of the pastorate unit.

Seven people were baptised on 7th December at Jamnamarathur by Rev. Christopher of Tirupathur.

Quite a few converts witnessed the baptism and inauguration service. The Bishop presented 10 sets of gospels in cassettes along with cassette players to all the 10 centres in Jawadhi Hills.

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URGENT NEED

1. An honorary assistant editor is required to edit the matters for NMI and Deepikai, the news bulletins of the NMS. His job will be editing the matters and proof correction. The person required must be missionary minded and able to edit the matters, (it will be good if the person has previous experience in editing) able to spare his/her time and the person should be from Madras. Kindly contact the General Secretary.

2. NMS requires ORGANISING SECRETARIES for the following states: Karnataka (central), Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. Presbyters or laymen who are interested in promotional work for missionary work may apply to the General Secretary.

THE RURAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE FELLOWSHIP CAMP

(R. C. S. F. CAMP)

Date: 23rd May to 1st June 1986

Place: JAMNAMARATHUR, JAWADHI HILLS.

Contact for details:

Convener,
R. C. S. F. Camp
N M. S. House,
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah,
MADRAS-600 014,

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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The National Missionary Society of India
206 Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

We have glanced through "Peter in Action" from May—June1983 issue of the N.M.I. to January 1986. We have seen how Peter was in Action and how he could be an instrument in the hands ofGod. It is believed that Peter was taken to Rome where he was crucified upside down.

As I thought about the next series of meditations, it was felt within me to go back to the life of Peter and try to see a few more things about Him. As we continue the meditation on the life of Peter, let us pray, that the Lord may continue to speak to us. The new title for our meditation will be "Peter and Jesus Christ."

PETER AND JESUS CHRIST

Bible Portion—John 1:41-42.

Jesus was introduced by John the Baptist as "Behold the Lamb of God" John 1:36. When he was introduced, we find that two of the disciples of John the Baptist followed Jesus and one of them was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter.

1. **Simon was informed about Jesus** Vs. 41.

Soon after the meeting with Jesus, Andrew came home and informed his brother about Jesus. The word used is "He first findeth". Rather Andrew was very anxious to pass on the news about Jesus and he found his own brother and informed about Jesus. Witnessing for Jusus begins right at hom among the Kith and Kin. Some people say that God has called them to proclaim the good news elsewhere. But we find that the ministry was started in the place where they were. Great men are within the reach of our hands and we fail to contact them. Andrew realising the potentialities of his brother Simon, found him and informed him about Jesus, whom he had experienced. He told him "we have found the Messiah". This shows they were longing and searching for the Messiah. The desire to see God is in every soul and with the longing to see God, people move from place to place, temples to temples and country to country. How will they know, if they are not informed (Rom. 10:14).

2.. **He was brought to Jesus** Vs. 42a.

Andrew was not satisfied, by informing about Jesus to Simon but he brought him to Jesus. It is not only necessary to inform people about Jesus, but is also necessary to bring such people and introduce them to Jesus. Probably Simon would not want to meet Christ directly and wanted Andrew to help him. We have to note the earnestness of Andrew in bringing him to Christ. Are we earnest in bringing souls to Christ?

3. **He was beheld by Jesus** Vs. 42b.

It is stated that "Jesus beheld him". Jesus looked at him and was able to see him fully. He could see what Simon was and what he is and what he will be. The greatness of God is that He is able to know a man thoroughly.

Jesus told him that you are Simon son of Jona. It is here we have to note that Jesus did not refer him as the brother of Andrew, but said "Son of Jona". Jesus recognizcd him as his father's son. He knew, his name and his father's name. There can be nothing hidden before him Jesus also told him of what he was, what he is and what he will be. He told him "You will be Cephas". Which means 'A Stone'. Jesus promised an absolute change in his life.

If we are earnest enough to bring souls to Christ, Christ will change their lives and make them instruments in His hands.

A thirteen year old teenager was taken by his father to a retreat conducted by their pastor. At the retreat opportunities were given for dedicating their lives for Christ. The young teenager dedicated himself for God's service. His life was changed and today he is being used in His hands for His glory. Will you attempt to bring some to Christ, so that Christ may change his/her life and use him/her for His glory.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Lent :

The lent began on 12th February 1986. As usual we have begun to observe the season. Self denial, prayer, and devotion are expected of us. The sufferings and death of Jesus Christ are remembered, because we enjoy the benefits of the cross, But we do not wish to partake in His sufferings. May the Lord help us to partake in His sufferings.

Pope's Visit :

February 1986 marked the historic visit of Pope John Paul II the head of the Roman Catholic church and the head of the Vatican City. He was warmly welcomed by different sections of the Society.

Arch Bishop of Canterburry's Visit :

The visit of the Arch Bishop of Canterburry was another land mark in the history of the Indian Church. Both the Pope and the Arch Bishop met in Bombay, India. The meeting would go a long way in the unification of the churches. Both the above great personalities of the Christian Churches visited number of places in India.

Reformation Rememberance :

The Mar Thomas Syrian Church, celebrated its 150th anniversary of the reformation of the church. Since the reformation, the church has done a great deal of service in different ways to the members of their church and to others. One remarkable thing is the service of the Mar Thomas Evangelistic Association, which is responsible in taking the Gospel to different parts of the Country. This association is one of the main wings of the church and is responsible for conducting the famous Maramon Convention at the Pumba River bed. The N.M.S. is given a few minutes to speak about its work and a place to put up a stall at the convention spot to exhibit the work of the society. The early missionaries to the N.M.S. fields in Ankola, Hanovar and Kumta came from the Mar Thomas Evangelistic Association. Let us praise God for the Mar Thoma Church and it's leaders. May He enable the church to continue in proclaiming the good news.

Decisions of the Standing Committee :

The Standing Committee of the N.M.S. was held on 8th and 9th February 1986 at Tanjore and took some definite decisions.

1. To appoint another 30 missionaries during the year 1986.

2. To increase the dearness allowance of the staff and missionaries of the N.M.S. from 10% to 25%.

Your prayers and support earnestly solicited for the implementation of the decisions.

C.S.I. Synod:

The Church of South India had it's 20th session of the synod at the L.M.S. Compound in Trivandrum. The General Secretary of the N.M.S. was invited to attend the Synod meetings and to convey it's greetings. The Synod's theme was Mission in Christ's way. The former Bishop of Madras, Bishop Newbigin took the Bible study based on the word of God which was useful to everyone.

Decenium Celebrations:

The Vellore Diocese of the C.S.I. had it's deceniun celebrations from 24th—26th January 1986. It was reported the church has added more than 50,000 members to the church during the Decenium. The N.M.S. was invited to participate in the celebration as the N.M.S. has work in the Diocesan area among the tribals of Jawadhi Hills. All the Missionaries from Jawadhi Hills attended the programmc. The diocese has given top priority for evangelism. We are called to praise God for the growth of the diocese and to pray for the future of the diocese.

Coimbatore Branch:

The N.M.S. branch in Coimbatore had a rally on 7th January 1986 and the General Secretary was the main speaker. The branch also had it's annual sale on 11th January 1986 and raised about Rs. 8500/- which was much more than the expectation.

Jabalpore Branch:

The Jabalpore branch of the N.M.S. had it's Mela on 26th January 1986.

Resignation:

Mr. Ranjit Kumar, Organising Secretary for North India has resigned from 1st of January 1986. The Society is thankful to him for the service he has rendered to the development of the Society. Those who were in correspondence with Mr. Ranjit Kumar, about the N.M.S. activities may hereafter contact Mr. Stephen Thiagamony, Organising Secretary, C/o. H. M. M. School, C. P. Mission Compound, Jhansi-284 003, U. P. and Mr. A. H. Khan, the Area Secretary for U.P. His address is 14/625 Nai Basti, Murad Ali Lane, Lucknow-226 001, U.P.

P.J.M. Building:

The construction of the P.J.M. Building has come to it's last phase. Yet we need another Rs. 2 lakhs to complete the work

Common Concern :

We are all concerned about the situations in Punjab and Sri Lanka. Let us pray that the Lord of peace may rule over the minds of the people and leaders in these areas.

May the spirit of God enable every one of us to pray for our Nation and the people who are involved in His work.

Thanking you,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

"Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost—and power did great wonders and miracles among the people" (Acts 6:5-8)

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SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

in the context of the present day world events

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Enquiries are also invited from Christian Book Sellers and Institutions.

FIELD REPORTS

Allery : Mr. P. A. Charles.

Contacts were made with new faces and the Good News told to them. Some evinced keen interest in hearing about Jesus Christ. One Nachi Gounder wanted the evangelist to meet him often and tell him about the Bible. The enquirer wants to be baptised early. Let us pray for this soul. Prayer meetings were held in seven houses.

Nandanur : Mrs. & Mr. G. A. Gaju & Mr. William Soundarajan.

They have conducted open air meetings and street preachings. During the visits to the villages besides telling the people about Jesus Christ and His love they also attend on the patients coming to them for treatment. The cure that Mr. Periya Panjan and Raju got, elated others who witnessed it. Those who objected to the preaching of the Gospel changed their minds and came forward to hear the Gospel and went back rejoiced. We need to pray specially for the social work ie. medical help renderd to the poor by these evangelists.

Veerapannoor : Mrs. & Mr. Robert John.

He reports that he visited 17 villages and contacted about 400 persons and distributed tracts to 153 persons. For about a week during January 1986, his child was seriously laid up with illness causing concern. His neighbours mostly Hindus who are superstitous wanted to do something to please their deity according to their custom. But the evangelists would not yield to them and were in tearful prayers. To their joy our Lord heard their prayers and the child was completely cured. The superstittious people were astonished at this wonderful cure to the child. Prayers needed for the children who attend the night classes.

Gundalatur : Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel.

One Kuzuland a drunkard and a Rheumatic patient came to the evangelist for treatment. Besides treatment of the disease, simultaneously the Gospel message was imparted to him. Now he is alright. There was a sizeable crowd in the house of Mr. Thoppilan when the evangelist went to his house to treat him for severe stomach ache. That was an opportunity to proclaim the Good News. The person who is also a herenia patient was advised to go to hospital and undergo operation. Let us pray for this patient. Mrs. Chinniapillai a woman from Kolathom village who has no children since her marriage ten years ago eame to the evangelist for

treatment and told her history. She was cursed and mocked by the villagers and she could not bear the mental agony. She was pacified by the evangelist and treated after telling her the Gospel and praying for her. What a marvel? This woman will now have a baby in a few months. Please pray for her.

Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel wants us to pray for the family of Mr. Raju and his family problems, for Mrs. Kuppu whose husband died two years back and is in deep sorrow, for Mr. Ponnusami and his ailing wife and their children.

Kalyanamanthai N.A.—District: Mr. M. Jesudass.

During Jan. 86 the evangelist visited Kerala, T. Nadu and Andhra Pradesh for ministry and do deputation work. Had the opportunity to spread the objectives of N.M.S. in the places he visited. Membership cards were given to many members of the Pugalur Church and Kangayan Church, Several Christians who had very little knowledge about NMS came forward and promised to pray for N.M.S. This emphasises the need for deputation work by the evangelists.

Jamnamarathur: Mr. M. Aruldoss.

He wants the readers to pray for one Mr. Chinnaiyan a widower with five children, very poor but a heavy drunkard. Mr. Chinniyan wants to get rid of this bad habit. By quoting verses from the Bible and explaining the evils of drinking which is a dreadful sin the evangelist has persuaded this person the need to desist from this bad habit. Mr. Velan, Chinnasamy and Bargur forester received the Book of Proverbs from the evangelist. Pray that they read it understand the messages contained therein and that they are useful in their daily lives.

Puri: Rev. Paul Sanjeevi.

He reports that five enquirers ie. Mr. Yella Rao, K. Polayya, K. Bandamma, K. Thaniyachalam and Mariya were baptised on New Year day. Pray that God bless them and that they may be firm in their faith.

Karagapatti—Kandili: Mrs. & Mr. Thiraviam.

They report that last year two persons were baptised and now another four have accepted Jesus Christ as their saviour and are ready to be baptised. We need to pray for them. They are specially concentrating on eight families. Let us pray that these families accept Jesus Christ as their saviour.

Hebri : Mr. Godfry Soans.

An evangelistic meeting was held when Mr. J. P. Ashwal, Organising Secretary, Bombay attended with three believers from Bombay. They met 378 persons and visited 69 houses and spread the message of God. It is reported that Mr. Siddu, Shridas, Sanheyya Shilly and Narayana evinced keen interest in hearing about Jesus Christand knowing the Bible. Prayers needed for useful contacts and follow up action.

Chakarpur : Rev. R. R. Vyas & Mr. Devanesan.

Visited village schools and preached the Gospel through short stories. A village school teacher in Chatar has accepted Jesus Christ as his personal saviour and he was given a New Testament. The next main place chosen by the evangelists for spreading the Gospel was the annual fair at Orcha. There the evangelists were able to reach thousands of people with the Gospel message. A good number of gospel portions and nine New Testaments were sold.

The police tried to give them some trouble but to the Glory of God this was only for a short while. While preaching the Gospel in Pathari and Suniavare they faced several difficulties and persecutions. Similarly there was great opposition from one Mr. Pandit and his group to the preaching of Gospel in Rajpina. Undatered by this, Mr. P. Pandit was told more about Christ and the need to accept Him as his saviour. On hearing the Gospel the man's heart melted and he requested the evangelists to come again. Thank God for His wonderful deeds. The work spot of these evangelists is tough as they meet with stiff opposition wherever they go. Let us not forget to pray for these evangelists.

Noliyasabi—Puri : Mr. Daud Sagar.

School work is going on smoothy. Besides regular studies the children are taught Gospel words and small songs suitable for them. Three persons were ready for baptism but one was baptised and the other two backed out. Pray for those two persons that they may not fall back on their faith and that they come to His fold soon.

Thongumalai : Mrs. & Mr. Ananda Chandrasekaran.

His prayer requests are

1. For the two youngsters who have accepted God as their saviour and are being prepared for baptism.

2. For the relief of the two girls Kuppu and Saroja from the clutches of the evil spirit.

3. For the back slidden convert, Peter Annamalai and Samuel Chinnathambi.

4. For Periya Pariyan and his family members who are ready to be Baptised.

5. For the converts Saminathan, Krishnan, Chinnasami who are to sit for the Government exams, that they may come out successful.

Kattiyankudusai : Mr. P. Devairakkam.

He wants us to pray :

1. For Raji of Valliyur who is possessed of evil spirits and is daunted by bad dreams.

2. For the student Kamaraj whose mind strays away from his studies.

3. For the student George Velliyandi who is suffering from severe stomach pain for a long time.

4. For Doraisamy and Kannu Panniyan who have accepted Jesus Christ and are ready to be baptised.

BRANCH NEWS

To the Glory of God the C.S.I. Anad, Trivandrum District has on 8th December 1985, formed a N.M.S. Prayer Group. A Committee for the purpose with ten members the president being Mr. V. Christudas, Evangelist was formed Rev. J. Jayaraj, organising Secretary, South Kerala is the Ex-Officio Member.

Errata

In December issue of 1985 in page 15 under obituary. Please read as Mrs. Jothi George Gnanamuthu beloved wife of Rev. George Gnanamuthu, Thanjavur.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building Fund donors list published in N.M.I. October '85 issue. For collections through Mr. David Suresh up to 31st Aug. 85' details hereunder

Dr. S. D. Peters — Katpadi	100	00
Mrs. Lucy Pandiaraj — Kottagiri	100	00
Mr. D. Isaac Richard — Coimbatore	25	00
Dr. Christy Ganapathy — Coimbatore	1000	00
Mr. Dominics David — Coimbatore	100	00
Mr. E. T. Jeyachandran — Coimbatore	100	00
Mrs. Joseph — Conoor	100	00
Mr. D. Somasundaram — Madras	60	00
Mr. Balwant Roa — Madras	100	00
Dr. Stephen	100	00
Mr. Sukumar — Coimbatore	105	00
Dr. Jayaraj — Naryan	100	00
Dr. Chandrasekar — Ranipet	20	00
Dr. & Mrs. Kumaresan — Coimbatore	250	00
Mr. M. C. Dorai — Madras	100	00
Mr. Rajan Jesudoss — Madras	500	00
Mr. G. T. Soundara Pandiaraj — Kottagiri	500	00
Mrs. Lucy Pandiaraj — Kottagiri	500	00
Mr. C. S. Philip — Coimbatore	100	00

THOUGHT

Todays new thinking in Theological circles needs to be tested with the word of God. God in Christ helps the sinner to confront him, enable him, to surrender to Him and to become His Child.

Martin.

R. C. S. F. CAMP 1986

Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp will be held at the mission fields of N.M.S. as follows :

Place	Dates
Kulathapuzha, Kerala	— 5th May to 10th May 1986
Jamnamarathur, Tamil Nadu	— 23rd May to 1st June 1986

College students who would like to attend the camps may contact the convenors as follows.

Contact addresses:

Kulathupuzha Camp

Rev. John Jeyaraj
Organising Secretary,
Convenor R.C.S.F. Camp,
Chavadi Kukku,
Trivandrum,
Kerala-17.

Mr. K. Chandy,
Organising Secretary,
Mathilunkal House,
Near Railway Station,
Tiruvella-689 101,
Kerala.

Jamnamarathur Camp

Mr. David Suresh,
Convenor,
R.C.S.F. Camp,
Organising Secretary—N M.S.,
18/63, Big Bazar Street,
Coimbatore-641 001.

The General Secretary,
N.M.S.,
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

Participants will have to pay Rs. 15/- as registration fee. Food and lodging will be arranged by the N.M.S. This is a Project of N.M.S. which helps college students to have reformation in their lives and to help them to accept God's call for their lives. This is conducted by the free will donations of the N.M.S. members. It's estimated cost is Rs. 11,000/-.

You are kindly requested to pray and send your donations to the Hon. Treasurer N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Stating R.C,S.F. Camp 1986.

REQUESTS

1) Branch and Area leaders. Conveners, Executive members are requested to forward all the collections for the year 85—86 to the Hon. Treasurer N.M.S. of India. 206, Peters Road. Royapettah. Madras-600 014 before 31st of March 1986. Please also forward all the used receipt books to the Head Quarters.

2) There are a few people, who have complained stating that they have not received the receipts. If you have not received an official receipt from the Head Quarters. please write to the General Secretary and find out whether your contributions have reached the Head Quarters.

Kindly treat the above matters as urgent and important.

VISIT TO NILGIRIS

As per the programmes organised by Mr. David Suresh the Organising Secretary for North Tamilnad. we were able to visit Kottagiri, Coonoor and Ootty from 13th to 16th of February 1986. In all these places new branches were organised. All the Pastors in Nilgiris extended their full co-operation. A few layment were with us in visiting people providing their vehicles and we thank God for every one who helped us. The visit has enabled to meet many of the supporters.

BRANCH INFORMATION

An N.M.S. branch was formed in Aletty in South Kerala and the following persons were chosen as the leaders and committee members.

Mr. D. Russel Samas, President: Mr. D. E. Vijaya Sundar Singh. Secretary; Mr. Gnanadas, Accountant and Mr. Viswambaran Treasurer. The following were chosen as committee members— M/s Walsalan, Selvam Rose, H. M chael. Anil Kumar. Devane an. and Srs. Lilly, Suseela and Rosily.

On behalf of the N.M.S. we congratulate and pray that this branch may strengthen the local church. pray for the N.M.S. work and support it regularly.

OBITUARY

1. Mr. Saleem aged 42 years elder brother of Miss Salina Rekha our Ludhiana Missionary. went to be with Lord on 23rd Jan. 1986. May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved family.

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2. Mrs. A. Samuel, aged 88 years, mother of Shri J. F. Devaraj, Adyar Area Convener, entered into her heavenly abode peacefully on 9th January 1986. Her life was a life of sacrifice for the sake of the family and brought up her children to cherish and love the Lord and to walk in His ways.

3. Mrs. Daisy Williams one of the oldest Members of N.M.S. of Royapuram Area slept in the Lord on 14th Feb. 1986 at Anna Nagar. May the Lord console and comfort the berevaed family.

Rev. GNANASUNDRAMANI

He had his home call suddenly on 5th Feb. 1986 at Katpadi. He was born on 27-9-1922. Soon after his college education in

Voorghese college in Vellore and Madras Christian College in Madras, he joined the U. T. College for his Theological education and secured his B.D. After that, he was drawn to N.M.S. Since there was a need for a headmaster for the N.M.S. School at Dasarpuram in Tinnanoor he was sent for B. T.

Rev. Gnanasundaramani served in the N.M.S. for 14 years as the head-master at the N.M.S. School in Dasarpuram, Missionary-in-charge, Organising Secretary and as assistant to the General Secretary. He was also in charge of the Rural Christian Service Fellowship along with Miss Gnanadhickam and others.

He was ordained by the Coimbatore Diocese, while in service in N.M.S. Later he joined the Madras Diocese for Pastoral ministry. When the Madras Diocese was bifurcated he came under the Vellore diocese and served as a pastor in the diocese till his death.

The N.M.S. is grateful to God for his services.

He has left behind his dear wife and children. May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved family.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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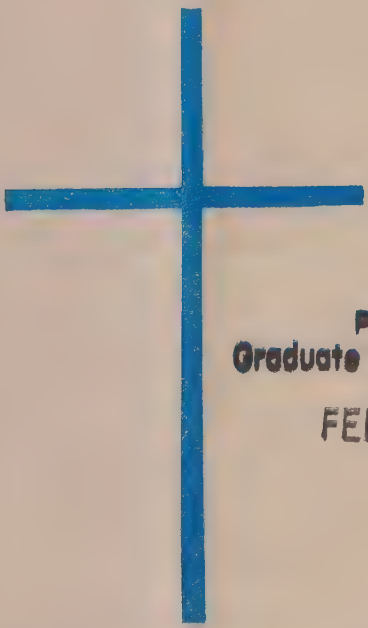

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MEDITATION

Peter in the Gospels :

Mat. 4:18~20, Mark 1:16~18, Luke 5:1~11.

Peter's unique experience in meeting Christ, as we see in John 1:41~42 promises of what he would be. To make him a 'Cephas' (a stone) Jesus had to meet him again and invite him to follow Him. Earlier in John we find Peter was brought to Christ by his own brother Andrew, when he experienced Christ in a personal way.

(1) Christ met Simon Peter in the place where he was.

Peter was a very busy person engaged in fishing. In all the 3 passages we find him engaged in fishing at the sea of Galilee. Jesus was not satisfied by meeting him once, but now He goes after him to the place where he was toiling. He had his business. He was a hard worker. He was very earnest in his work. We find in the word of God, God meeting people to invite them for special purposes in the places where they were. Eg. Moses was in the wilder~ ness looking after his father~in~law's flock, where the Living God met him and called him out to lead his people from the bondage. Every prophet in the Bible was engaged in one work or other, where God met them and called them out to fulfill His plan. He does not look for the slothful and irresponsible and lazy people, but only the ones who were engaged were called out.

This is the character of God, in meeting the people in the places where they are. God in Christ came to this world to seek the sinners.

(2) Christ met Peter and demanded Obedience.

Having used Simon's boat as the pulpit Jesus demanded him to launch out into the deep and let down his nets for fishing (Lk. 5:4). In the following verse 5 we find Peter responding saying "Master, we have toiled all the night and

have taken nothing" and yet he was willing to do anything at the command of Christ. Jesus sought for people, who are not only engaged in some work but he was looking for people, who would obey Him. He wants people who would not count the cost in obeying Him. Simon Peter was an experienced and seasoned fisherman, who knew the seasons and the places where he should spread his nets and what kind of catch he will have and etc. Yet he was willing to launch in and he did. To his surprise what a big catch he had (Lk. 5:6-7).

His obedience made Him to be astonished, but there is something more we find.

Simon fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord" (5:8).

When someone is met by God, the man realises his own unworthiness (Exo. 3:6. b, Is. 6·5). After achieving a great thing, Simon Peter acknowledged his unworthiness and calls himself as "sinful man." Today, we say, I achieved, we achieved and so on. We fail to recognise the greatness of our God and surrender to Him.

(3) Jesus called him to follow Him.

A great call was extended to him to follow Him and to be fishers of men. Hitherto, Peter was engaged in fishing for men, but now to be fishers of men. What a great job! He was engaged in the perishables, now for an unperishable job. The new job will be making man in God's plan, to invite people for a change of life and to face God. To invite them to leave the sinful life and for a holy life to meet the Holy God. The God of heaven and earth looks for people who would follow Him to be fishers of men.

(4) Jesus got a ready response.

Lk. 5:12, Mk. 1:18, Mt. 1:20. Both in Mathew and Mark the word immediately is used. The response to the call given by Jesus to Simon Peter was so quick. He did not wait and make enquiries of what Jesus will give him, if he

follows Him, because he realised the greatness of the great God in Jesus Christ. If He has called someone for His work, he or she need not be worried about the future, about the parents, about the family etc., because He will take care of them and they are in His mighty hands.

It is also stated "they forsook all and followed him." They gave up the job and took up a greater job. I have heard people saying that they gave up their jobs in the government service where they were getting a fat salary, and greater benefits and taken up ministry for a lower salary. Such people look at the value of their life in terms of the perishable money and not the greater privilege of involving in the ministry of the Almighty God.

Repeatedly I have seen an advertisement stating "Kick your job and start business." God calls us to kick our business, jobs and money-making affairs, and to follow Him to be fishers of men.

Christ Jesus wants people to be fishers of men. WILL YOU?

.....

New Postings :

Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel, who were undergoing training at Yavatmal will be joining in the work at Silpahari in M.P. to work along with Mr. & Mrs. Jude Antony.

Mr. M. M. Schriachan to Lukkimpurkheri in U.P.

Mr. K. P. Jacob to Basai in M.P. Both of them will be supported by the India Evangelise Fellowship at Tiruvella for a period of one year.

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LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Apology :

Due to the concentration on the building work and other regular work, it was not possible for us to send the March issue in time and the readers, friends and members of the Society are requested to bear with us.

Visit to Pudurnadu :

The Evangelists meeting was arranged at Pudurnadu in Jawadhi Hills. Pudurnadu comes under the Tirupathur range. A two hour bus ride from Tirupathur will take us to the place. The road is very narrow and if a vehicle comes from the opposite direction, it will be very difficult to cross. While climbing up through the hairpin curves the mini bus stopped all of a sudden and started reversing back. A few people jumped out and put stone blockades. Thank God for saving all our lives.

People at Pudurnadu are of a different group, compared to the ones at the other side of the Hills. There are Hindu temples and carvings of Chola dynasty are found. There is a High School run by the Forest Department. No commodities can be purchased in Pudurnadu. People are friendly. Mr. & Mrs. M. P. Andrews are our evangelists and they live among the people. There are a number of villages around Pudurnadu. One of the tribal leaders has come forward to give us 50 Cents of land at a cost of Rs. 3,500/-. If any one is inspired, they may kindly contribute towards this. After purchasing the plot, we will have to construct building for the evangelist to live and conduct worship services for the local people. Mr. & Mrs. M. P. Andrews are supported by the N.M.S. branch Eathavila in Kanyakumari District.

Holy Week :

Another week known as the Holy week is over. I had the privilege of sharing the word of God at the Tamil Church in Santhome on Palm Sunday, at the Cathedral Church on Wednesday, at the Garrison Church on Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday again at Santhome and assisted at the 7~30 a.m. Service at the Cathedral Church.

Platinum Jubilee memorial building :

Thus far the Lord has been so gracious in supplying the needed funds. The construction work is nearing it's last phase. Still we need Rs. 1,00,000/~ more, apart from the advance which will be received from the tenants. It is also decided to dedicate the building at 4 p.m. on 26th April 1986.

"YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND".

Praise God for His leading and guiding hand in the construction work. I also praise God for every one who prayed, contributed, and laboured to complete this project.

Though the building work will be completed and dedicated on 26th April 1986 the Society has to repay the money which has been taken from the fixed deposits. So friends can continue to contribute for the same. A detailed report will be published in the May issue of the N.M.I.

Examinations :

I am sure our children will be attending to their annual examinations. May the Lord Jesus Christ enable them to do their best in the exams On behalf of the N.M.S. and myself I wish them all success.

R. C. S. F. Camp :

This camp is meant for young people. You may kindly send your donations to the Hon. Treasurer, speci~

fying it as for R.C.S.F. Camp. Please also pray for the participants and leaders. Two out of the 30 participants of the last year's camp have come into full time ministry of the N.M.S.

Evangelists needed :

More evangelists are needed to be appointed in the fields. Your special earnest prayers are solicited so that the Lord of the Harvest may raise up men and women to go into the field.

Pray for our country :

We have seen in the news papers of what is happening in Punjab. It is very sad, that our people kill our own people. They are our brethren. We Christians need to pray for communal harmony in Punjab and particularly that good relationship should be re-established among the Sikh brethren. Let us also pray that the terrorists may surrender their arms and realize the need for peace.

May the Risen Lord be with us all.

Yours in His Service
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

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Resignation :

Mr. & Mrs. Velmurugan, who were in Veeranamalai working among the Lambadies have resigned from 1st of April 1986.

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FIELD REPORTS

Kashmir : Mr. & Mrs. Tahir Masih.

Mr. Tahir writes that a woman who had almost lost her eye sight was healed and this was due to prayer. He has visited several villages, mainly to learn the peoples reaction to the Gospel.

Rev. Paljore writes from Srinagar as follows :

"I have a muslim convert..... He is interested to study in a theological college to gain knowledge as well to serve the Lord. He is an under graduate and he is a married person. He has a child also. He has a sister who is willing to take baptism". Prayers are requested for this family and God may lead them step by step.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir need to be lifted to the throne of Grace. The people in the State need to be loyal to the nation. Political stablity needs to be estabilshed.

Ludhiana—Punjab : Miss Salina Rakha.

In the midst of trouble and confusion in the state, Miss Rakha continues her efforts in contacting the people by distributing tracts and gospel portions. She has visited the distressed people both in their homes and hospitals. She has very earnestly requested to pray for Punjab as there is political instability. Pray for Punjab and the ministry of Miss Rakha and others.

Malligachi—West Bengal : Mr. N. C. Gosh.

Mr. Gosh is teaching the students and a Bengali evangelist is required to be posted in this place to work. Praying friends are requested to pray for an evangelist, who knows Bengali, and must be a family man to be posted in this place.

Mallihabad—U.P. : Mr. & Mrs. Mahesh Chandra.

Mr. M. Chandra writes : There are eager souls from the Muslim and Hindu bretheren who want to know more about Christ and the Saving grace. "Three new seekers were received from Muslim locality..... I am finding a great hunger for God's word among the people from an old city of Nawabs of audh. Praise the Lord for such a first ready response to the gospel. As an evidence of their sincerity they gave consent and made arrangements to conduct our prayer at their residence twice a week". Prayers are requested for

1) Mr. Askari Ameer, Mrs Zainab and Miss Iqbal Fatima.

2) Mr. Deva Ram and Mr. Hira Lal, who believe in our Lord.

Praise God for the Orthodox Hindus who have invited Mr. Mahesh Chandra to go to their homes and teach the word of God.

Praise God for the opposition reproaches Mr. Mahesh Chandra faces. (This is his request) as he faces the people.

Lukkimpurkheri—U.P.: Mr. & Mrs. Sampath James.

Mr. Sampath James has contacted people individually and a few illustrations are given below for prayer. "At Pippiria Kamson, sitting in a cattle shed I started proclaiming the good news to a group of about 20 people. Mr. Chottelal an aged man invited me to his house, where his brother's son who belongs to Arya Samaj came for arguments. He was told the gospel.

In another village called Sondpur, Mr. Mankuka was met and gospel was presented to him. He was suffering from back pain for over a year. He was prayed and taught a small prayer to pray daily. During the next visit it was found that he was healed. This has helped to present the gospel to many people.

Rampur is another village, where a woman asked us to tell her about our caste and we told we belong to Jesus Christ and we are christians. She also expressed she belongs to 'Varma' group. To her we explained about Jesus and He wishes to live in our Temple which is our own body.

We have also met a Sadhu (Hindu Sanyasi). Having met me he said "You please receive this prasadam". Immediately I told him "I take pleasure in giving and not in receiving" and gave him a gospel portion, which he received gracefully. We both sat down and he took a black cloth, which was wrapped on his walking stick, and asked me to meditate on that. I responded to him as "any black cloth is the sign of sorrow and I never like that colour". The Sadhu became very quiet and later asked me about my caste and I told him I am a Christian. To him I asked how many castes are there in the world and the Sadhu said there are only two and they are Hindus and Muslims (Here we should realize that the Sadhu is not aware of any Christians). Gospel was told to him and he quitely left me behind.

Please pray that the efforts made in this area may bear fruits.

Chakkarpur: Rev. R. R. Vyas & Mr. C. Devanesan

Rev. Vyas writes that, they have proclaimed the good news in 28 villages and for the first time they have visited some villages. "First time in my 16 years ministry, I faced great opposition in the village Raspura. A man abused me and spoke against Jesus Christ

and he shouted praising his gods. In the same village a few carpenters accepted us and listened to the gospel message". They have also distributed the gospel portions and new testaments to the people.

Mr. C. Devanesan writes, while sharing the good news to the young people at Pattari a young man abused and repeatedly beat him on his face and shouted that he was trying to preach about a foreign God, using foreign money and cheating our people". Mr. Devanesan wishes that he wants to bring many people to the fold of Christ and has also requested to pray for one Mr. Murugesan, who is being prepared for baptism. He is from Tamilnadu.

Kota—Rajasthan : Mr. Barunkumar Saumi.

In the month of February 1986, Mr. Barun has visited about 20 villages and personally contacted about 50 people. God opened a way for him to share the goodnews in a school where there are more than 250 students studying. The teachers also listened to the word of God.

Kulathupuzha—Kerala : Mr. & Mrs. Pappachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

Prayers are requested for :

1. Mr. Lakshmanan of R.P.Colony who is interested in listening to gospel and also has faith in prayers.

2. Mr. Arumugan's son who has expressed his willingness to take baptism.

3. The head master of High School has expressed that he is interested in reading the word of God.

4. A tribal girl named Ramani has listened to the gospel message and she may accept Jesus as her Lord and Saviour.

5. Because of the continuous visit to Kuvakadu plantation area one Mr. Panchavaranan has accepted Christ and has expressed his willingness to take baptism as family.

6. The R.C.S.F. camp will be conducted in this area from 2nd to 8th May 1986.

In all they have contacted nearly 600 people individually during the month of February and March 1986.

Hittinahalli—Karnataka : Mr. & Mrs. Prabudoss.

There was no evangelist at Hittanahalli till December 1985, since Mr. Franklin Bashme resigned. Mr. & Mrs. Prabudoss from K.G.F. were appointed as evangelists in Hittnahalli from 1st of January 1986. The new evangelists have started the work in a systamatic way to contact people. They have requested our prayers for the following.

M/s. Srikanth, Yamunappa Shankar, and Ashok Bilappa. There are many people who heard the gospel message. Dr. George Bankapur also goes along with the evangelists, for gospel work, whenever he finds time.

Kandili—Karagapatti : Rev. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam.

Both as a family visited several villages and contacted persons suffering from illness, possessed by evil spirits etc. and prayed for them. Several were cured of their diseases. On witnessing this Mr. Murugan and Mr. Kannan openly expressed that our Lord is great and mighty than the God they worship. Mr. Jawahar a teacher is an asthmatic patient and he has been deserted by his wife and children. While he was cycling, he met with an accident and is not able to walk properly. The evangelists preached the Gospel to him. This teacher has accepted Jesus Christ and is prepared for baptism. Let us pray for him. One Mr. Attukaruppan a staunch Hindu is hearing the Gospel and is attendingthe Church. Please remember him in your prayers.

Veerappanur : Mrs. & Mr. Robert John.

They visited 17 villages and had personal contacts with several people. Son of one Mr. Govindan of Bargur village was suffering from severe fever for four days. The evanglists visited the family and prayed for the boy. The prayers were heard and the boy was cured. Similarly the evangelists visited the wife of Mr. Kulundu and prayed for her disease. One Chinathai who was possessed with evil spirit was completely relieved of it when prayed for her. Pray for the above persons so that the little experience they gained may draw them nearer to God.

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudas.

He reports that convert Mr. Natarajan's family members who are still Hindus show a keenness in accepting Christ. Convert Ruben's daughter was seriously ill and was at the point of death. At that time Ruben's father advised Ruben to go to Tiruvannamalai and worship the Hindu God. But this advice was sternly turned

down. The evangelist prayed for the child and she was cured. Kalyanamanthai land-owner Mr. Annamalai's son Mr. Viswanathan was coming to the church regularly. But all of a sudden he stopped probably due to his father's intervention. A boy named Mr. Mark from this centre is undergoing theological study in Madras. We need to remember all the above individuals and the families in our prayers.

Gundalathur : Mr. & Mrs. Jeyaraj Samuel.

They report that the son and daughter-in-law of Mr. Ponnusamy of Sambady village have not been blessed with a child since ten years of their marriage. Due to this the couple are dejected in life and their relationship is also some what strained. Gospel was preached to them and also several villages and instances from the Bible where God had blessed such people with children were pointed out to them. Please pray for this couple and that the message they heard from the evangelists may open their eyes in the belief of God. It is reported that the people of this area are drink-addicts, lead a debaucherous life and any amount of preaching would not move them away from their traditional way of living. They treat these matters casually. Pray that God give them a change of heart. Mrs. Sarama Jeyaraj reports that 125 persons came to her for treatment. In the process they also heard the Gospel message from the evangelists. The child of Mr. & Mrs. Gopal was brought in a critical stage vomitting heavily and suffering from diorreah and it was certain that death would come soon. After treatment with prayers the child was cured. Praise God.

Athipet : Mrs. & Mr. O. James Meyyan.

There is great opposition to the work of these evangelists and there are enemies to them. Readers may know about this from some of the earlier issues. Inspite of all threats and obstacles the evangelists are getting on with their work having their faith in God Almighty. Visited 19 villages and contacted 173 persons and preached the Gospel. One Mr. Krishna a night school student of Thoppu village has accepted Jesus Christ and is ready for baptism. So also Mr. R. Raja of Nelvai village is also ready for baptism. We need to remember all the above in our prayers.

Jamnamarathur : Mrs. & Mr. Aruldoss.

Their prayer requests :

1. For Govindarajan and his family who have belief in Jesus may accept Him soon.

2. For Mrs. Chinnamalai and Shanthi who were ready for baptism but have now gone back in their faith. That they may come to our Lord again.

3. For Mr. Solomon of Naickanoor a new convert who is ill-treated by his two sons as he has accepted Jesus Christ and was baptised on 8—12—85, so also for Mr. Samuel Chiniakannan.

4. For Mr. K. Paul Azhagirisamy, Block Development Officer, Jamnamarathur who is suffering from high B.P. He is a christian.

Nadanur: Mrs. & Mr. G. A. Raju & William Sundarrajan.

God's message was taken to the people, in remote places by the media of distribution of tracts and messages through loud speaker. About 60 persons were treated for their ailments. The Gospel was preached to them. Attended the harvest festival in St. John's church with students. Mr. John Vellayan a believer fell from a tree and died. Remember the bereaved family in your prayers.

Kattiankudisai: Mr. P. Devairakkam.

While conducting night service in the NMS school the electric connection is wantonly snapped by some mischief-makers. Pray that God may give a change of heart to them and that they desist from such evil deeds. Also pray for Mr. Paul Velliyandi who is suffering for a long time from severe headache and pain in the stomach and also for Miss. Pavun of Mel Kupchanavur who is suffering from fits.

Alleri: Mr. P. A. Charles.

Visited 20 villages and preached the Gospel of God. Also contacted 81 persons individually and told God's message. Prayer meetings were held in 15 houses. By prayer by the evangelist several persons got cured of their illness and some were relieved from the clutches of the evil spirits. This was mainly possible due to the fasting and prayers by the evangelists.

NEWS FROM BRANCH

Missionary dedication :

St. Mary's Church in Ranipet has taken up the responsibility to sponsor missionaries, and the Church appointed Mr. C. J. Dhayanandhan as Missionary with their support. Mr. David Suresh, the Organising Secretary thanked the presbyter for this kind act.

A trek by N.M.S. to the queen of Hills

Only during the last year Christians of Nilgiris came to know more about the activities of N.M.S. It was possible to form Branches at Ooty and Coonoor, as a result of frequent visits to the above places. N.M S. meetings were also held there, when Rev. J M. Jayasingh the General Secretary shared the Lord's message.

Ooty Branch :

Rev. Prince Peter, President; Rev. B. Jerome, Vice President; Mrs Sukumari Augustine, Treasurer; Mr. J. Samuel, Secretary; Mrs. Janaky Leslie, Joint Secretary; Members : Mrs. Mary Kuruvilla, Messrs. Jesudoss, George H. P. F , Chandrasekaran, Charles Samson, Essayian.

Coonoor Branch :

Mr. Sunderaraj, President; Mrs. Dinakaran, Secretary; Mr. K. M. Samuel, Treasurer; Members : Messrs. Nannu Prabhakar, Gladsingh Paulus, S Thankaraj Mammen, J. Robinson, T. M. John, M. Chelladurai, Presbyters of the Local Churches will serve as ex-officio members of the branch Committees.

DAVID SURESH.

Gandhinagar (Vellore)

With the help and co-operation of Rev. J. M. Jayasingh and Mr. Alfred, I started the work among the Christ Church Congregation. The response was encouraging and I was able to enroll members and collect donations. The people are very much interested in the work among the Hill tribes in the Jawadhi Hills. Sometime back an exhibition was arranged in the Christ Church and often Missionaries from the hills gave Messages in the divine Services. N.M.S. work in the Jawadhi is the responsibility of the Vellore diocese, and our Bishop Rt. Rev. Sam Ponniah evinces keen interest in this work. The National Missionary Intelligencer serves as a useful link with the Society and enables me to enroll new members.

The Lord is guiding me an aged person in my Eighties to do a little bit for this long standing Missionary Society.

B. A. DANIEL.

NEW BISHOP FOR DORNAKAL DIOCESE

Rev. Dara Noah Samuel was consecrated as the Bishop of the Diocese of Dornakal on the 5th January 1986 in the Epiphany Cathedral at Dornakal by the Most Revd. I. Jesudasan, the Moderator. Bishop T. B. D. Prakasharao was the speaker, Bishop Sundar Clarke, Bishop P. Victor Premasagar, Bishop P. Solomon, Bishop G. S. Luke and Bishop B. Prabhudas were present. A reception, which was largely attended, was given to the newly consecrated Bishop and to his wife by the diocese. The Bishop and his wife Mary Samuel served the diocese in various capacities and command good respect. They have four children-Vimala Kumari, Nirmal Kumar, Vasantha Kumari and Bhagya Kumari. We congratulate the Bishop and pray to the God Almighty to grant him all the strength and wisdom to lead the diocese.

Courtesy to **South India Churchmen.**

OBITUARY

1. Mrs. Daisy Williams, one of the oldest members of Royapuram Area of N.M.S. of India expired on 14-2-1986. Her mortal remains were interned at the Kilpauk cemetry. Madras. She left behind two sons, daughters-in-law, grand children and a daughter. May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of the family.

2. Mr. S. R. Malekar had his home call on 30-3-'86. He had experienced the Lord in a personal way and was the N.M S. branch Secretary of the Dharwad branch.

He has left behind his wife, a son and 3 daughters. May the eternal God comfort and console the family. His death is a loss to the Society and to the family.

NEED

Evangelists are needed for different places in this Country. Those who are desiring to join the ministry may contact the General Secretary for details.

All your correspondences to the General Secretary and the contributions, donations and gifts to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer. The address is N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

FORM IV

(See Rule 8)

Statement about ownership and other particulars about the newspaper, "National Missionary Intelligencer"

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I, Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: 1-3-1986

(Sd.) J. M. JAYASINGH,
Signature of Publisher.

The Office Bearers and Executive Committee

OF

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA

cordially invite you for the dedication and opening

OF

THE PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING

for the Glory of God

on Saturday the 26th April 1986 at 5-00 p.m.

THE RT. REV. I. P. ANDREWS

President, N.M.S. and Bishop in Kolhapur C.N.I.

will dedicate the building

AND

THE RT. REV. SAM J. PONNIAH

Vice President N.M.S. and Bishop in Vellore C.S.I.

will declare open the building

N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Madras-600 014

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The National Missionary Society of India
206 Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

PETER IN THE GOSPELS
PETER WANTED TO WALK LIKE JESUS
(Matthew: 14:22-33)

We have already noted the way in which Simon Peter met Jesus and experienced Him. We have also meditated on the portion where it was mentioned about the call given to Simon Peter to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. He followed Him with no reservations, to become the one "Catching men."

In Matthew 14:14-21 we find Jesus feeding a crowd estimated more than five thousand. It was a great thing to Peter, seeing His master feeding a big crowd with five loaves and two fishes. "What a great master, whom I am following". Peter would have repeated this in his mind and also would have spoken out.

After feeding the crowd the disciples were made to board the boat and go before Jesus to reach the other side. Jesus wanted them to go (vs. 22). Disciples had to go without Christ. Their boat was caught in the wind and tossed against the waves. They were in a miserable condition. Life without Christ was miserable to them. We would be in the same fate if He is not with us.

Yet Jesus was concerned about them and He was there walking on the water (vs. 25). The disciples were terrified (vs. 26). When you are terrifiend and frightend, He is there in your midst to calm the situation. Are you afraid of some situation? We need not be afraid of any situation, only believe that He is in our midst. He is telling you and me "Take heart it is I; have no fear". There are 365 fear nots in the Bible one fear not for everyday. He says "Fear not".

Seeing Jesus walking on the water, Peter had the desire to walk like Jesus. He wanted to reach Him before He came into the boat. It has to be noted here that Peter was trying to test Jesus and said "Lord if it is you, bid me come to you on the water". (Vs. 28). Peter wanted to be sure, whether He is following the one who astonished him (Lk. 5:9), We need to be sure, whether we are following the Lord Jesus Christ in our day to day life. We also need to be

sure, whether he has called us for His service. Unless we are sure of having Him in our day to day life, we become disappointed and discouraged.

Vs. 29 tells us, that Peter got an "Yes" from Jesus saying "come". He got out of the boat and started walking on the water.

There are a few things we find in Vs. 29.

1. Jesus asked him to come out of the boat. To be like Jesus and come to him he received an invitation. The invitation was given to Peter at the request of Peter. It was an invitation to go to Jesus, extended by Jesus himself.

2. Peter got out of the boat to go to Jesus. Without fear he got out from the place where he was. Having received the invitation, he came out because he trusted in Jesus, His faith in Christ was amazing. He did not ask how to walk on the water? Is there any platform on the water? Will you hold me on in the palms of your hands. This kind of faith is called the daring faith. He invites to follow Him. Will you take a step for Him from the place where you are. Probably, you may in fear, or in sin, or in hatred, or in anything which is not pleasing the Lord. Perhaps he may be calling you to go out for His ministry. Will you move out?

3. Peter walked on the water and came to Jesus. Jesus was on the water and to reach Him Peter walked on the water. Looking at Jesus he walked. Faith in Jesus made him to walk on the water. He could perform it as Jesus. How happy he was, because he could walk on the water. He was enthusiastic about it. Are we not enthusiastic in following Him?

Vs. 30-31—Having come to Jesus very enthusiastically Peter looked around.

A "But" is used and it is said "Peter saw wind'. Till he reached Jesus, he did not look at the water or the wind, because his eyes were fixed on Jesus Christ. A young man went as a missionary to North India. While interviewing he said he will go wherever the Lord wants him to go. After having spent about an year in the mission field, he looked around the circumstances and his people. He began to listen to his young wife and decided to go back and did.

Peter looked at the circumstances and he could not face the wind and the waves. He was afraid. Since he was frightened he began to sink. When he took his eyes away from Jesus he began to sink. The wise man in Matthew 2:— started out towards Bethlahem to see Jesus by seeing the star. On their way they used their brain and landed in the Palace of Herod the king. How many of God's Children began their life very well and later drifted away from Him, when they fixed their eyes on the properties, earning more money, prestige and positions. What is our position today?

Hope was not lost it is said he cried out "Lord Save me". He realized that he cannot save himself but he needed his saviour. Many do not cry out for help but try to justify their falling and drift away fully from Him. We need Jesus Christ to save us from falling into temptations. We need Him every hour to have a victorious Christian life.

Peter began to sink, because he doubted vs. 31. b "O man of little faith why did you doubt". Jesus did not blame him for looking at the circumstances, but asked him, why did he doubt? Jesus picked him up by reaching out his hand. Jesus will be there to save you and me from sinking into the situations of your life.

The result of this was Vs. 32 and "they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Safety is there in Him.

Vs. 33 speaks to us of others response. They who were in the boat were astonised to see what has happened to Peter. It is said "And those in the boat worshipped him saying to him. "Truly you are the son of God". Peter's relationship with Christ has made others to worship Jesus Christ and acknowledge Him as the son of God.

Has our relationship with Jesus made others to worship Christ?

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

P. J. M. Building Dedication :

As announced in the previous issue of the N. M. I. the decication and opening service of the P.J.M. Building took place on 26th April 1986. The Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews, the President of the Society conducted the dedication service and dedicated the building. The Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, Vice President of the Society opened the building.

The next issue of the N.M.I. will be a special edition as Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building edition. A detailed report about the project with pictures will be brought out.

Contributions for the P. J. M. Building :

Contributions for the building project will be collected and every member, friend, Executive Council, missionaries, Organising Secretaries of the N.M.S. of India are requested to continue their efforts, in raising funds because we have used the earmarked funds. We have to settle a few more bills. Please pray that the Lord may inspire people to give liberally for this project.

New Missionaries to the field :

Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel, who were under training at Yavatmal have joined the work in Silphahari and they are stationed in Balghana, in Bilaspur Dist of M.P. Mr. M. M. Jacob and Mr. Skariachen from Kerala have joined the work in Basai and Lukkimpurkheri. They will be supported for one year by the India Evangelize Fellowship.

Funds for the work :

Thus far the Lord of missions have supplied the needed funds for the work. May, June and July are lean months and on behalf of the Society I would kindly request you to pray that the Lord of the missions may supply the needed funds.

Personnel for the work :

The need is great to send out men into the field. I am writing this letter being in the mission field in Kulathupuzha. We visited a few settlement of Tamils from Sri Lanka. People are hungry for the word of God. Who will go ? A detailed report of the Area will appear in one of the future issues of the N.M.I.

The field is white unto harvest all over the country. We need to be awakened to meet the need. Let us pray that the Lord may awaken us to go for Him.

May the eternal God be with you.

With best wishes and prayers.

Yours in His Service,
Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

FIELD REPORTS

JAWADHI HILLS

Jamanamarathur : Mrs. & Mr. Aruldoss

They report an incident that happened in the village on 22nd March 1956. A young girl named Rajini possessed of evil spirit fell into a well near her house. That evening the evil spirit troubled her and that was the cause for her fall into the well. The well is reported to be above 50' deep. What was peculiar about the incident was that the girl was not hurt the least in the process of falling by coming into contact with the side walls of the well. She fell straight into the water. She was miraculously saved. The evangelists witnessed this. Let us remember this girl in our prayers that she be relieved of the evil possesion.

Prayers needed for the following:

For Mrs. Jothibai, matron of Government Girls Hostel who has begun to attend church services with the hostel girls may come to the Lord completely.

For Mr. Annamalai an addict who wants to be relieved from the bad habit.

For Raman, Mrs. Shanthi, Pavanu who evince great interest in the gospel whenever the evangelists visit them.

It was a privilege for the evangelists to conduct a special service for the X standard students of Forest Department High School on 30th April 86, on their appearing for government examinations.

Kattiankudisai—Jawadhi Hills : Mr. Devarikkam.

It is reported by this evangelist that a believer in Kattiankudisai village had to face all of a sudden certain family difficulties ie loss of a cow, mother in sick bed and son also suffering from fever. These troubled him and has made him to believe that it may be the evil doing of some enemies. We need to pray that this believer may not fall back on his belief because of the temporary set backs.

God has completely cured Paiun daughter of Vattu Gounder of Melkupsanavur village from fits. We need to pray that the entire family may come to God.

Mr. Chinnasami and Mani of Palampattu village, Kannupaiyan of Kilkupsanavur, family of Mr. Duraisami of Melkupsanur and Chinnasami of Velliyur have accepted Jesus Christ as their saviour and are ready for babtism. We have to pray that the opposition from their parents and relatives may be put an end to by our Lord God.

Kandili Karagapatti : Mrs. & Rev. Thiraviam.

Their prayer requests :

1) For Mrs. Panchali who has not been blessed with a child since eight years of her marriage. If blessed with this gift by our Lord ready to write her witness.

2) One Mrs. Madhavi who is a believer was given a New Testament which she reads with great interest. Pray that the word of our Lord moves her to accept Christ.

3) Mr. Shanmugam of Karimpatti entered into a heated discussion with the evangelist. His contention was that there is a God but he cannot particularise and say who is that God. After citing several instances from the Holy Bible, the person was convinced that Jesus Christ is the one and only God of all creations. At the end this was accepted by the person. Pray for him.

Mrs. Thiraviam roports that Mrs. Selvi who was suffering from severe pain in her legs was cured after prayers. Miss Jessie aged 29 is not yet married. She wanted the evangelists to pray for her. Selvi Prabha is facing stiff opposition in her family and her parents are giving her much trouble. So far she is firm in her belief in Jesus Christ. Pray that she may be a beacon light in bringing her family members to God.

Pudur Nadu : Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews.

Follow up contacts were made by meeting those who were met in previous months. 28 persons were contacted personally and gospel was preached to them. It is reported that seven have accepted Jesus Christ. They are conducting Sunday Classes regularly and about 20 students are attending them.

Prayers needed for the evangelical work on every Wednesday in Chittoor village, for one Mr. Raman of Arumalaput village who has accepted Christ. He is suffering from severe headache. For the

believers Vedi, Annamalai, Sivalingam and Kuppusami of Pudur Nadu village that they may be more firm in their faith and be baptised soon.

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudoss

He has chosen market places for preaching the Gospel. Market places are ideal for Gospel preaching as people gather there in large numbers irrespective of caste, religion, language etc. He had an opportunity of giving a talk on NMS in the Indian Pentecostal church, Salem and this he says has encouraged the congregation to give their prayer support. Prayers sought for fourpersons who are growing in faith and want to be baptised. In Valayambathu village about 30 persons evinced keen interest in hearing the Gospel and finally came for prayer. Let us pray that these people learn more about our Lord Jesus and come to His fold in the days to come.

Nadanur : Mrs. & Mr. Raju & Mr. William Soundararaj

This team of three evangelists visited 14 villages, did street preaching and distributed tracts. Organising Secretaries Mr. David Suresh and Mr. Victor Henry visited these evangelists in their field and encouraged them in their evangelical work. This was like a tonic to these evangelists. This was a new experience for Mr. Victor Henry who had not known much about the geographical conditions of these places, where one had to trek miles and miles together on foot. Communication and conveyance facilities are very little. In spite of several odds, the evangelists are faithful to the Lord in their work. During the course of their visits to the villages, people were treated for small ailments. Prayer requested for Appasami a student who is often daunted by the evil spirit.

Thongumalai : Mr. Ananda Chandra Sekaran

He visited more than 20 villages and contacted about 200 persons and gave the Gospel message to them in detail. Camped in Elzi Marathur and Gundandi villages and preached the Gospel Mr. Chinna Ooran evinces great interest in the gospel. We need to pray for the restoration of his eye sight. Duraisamy of Chinnoor is a firm believer. But last month his daughter died suddenly. But this incident in his life did not deter him from his faith in God. He wants to be baptised soon. Prayers needed. Prayers also needed for a family in China Ethipattu village, and a youngster in Kunugkanon village who accepted Jesus Christ and are ready for baptism.

Veerappanur : Mr. & Mrs. Robert John

He reports that during the course of his evangelical work he met one Mr. Govindan of Bargur village, who was suffering from severe fever. Gospel was preached to him and fervent prayers undertaken. God healed him. One Chinnathai of Ettimarathur village was relieved from evil spirits and as a result has faith in Christ. Remember her in your prayers.

Hebri : Godfrey B. Soans.

Mr. Godfrey B. Soans visited the following four villages. 1. Kekanje, 2. Belanje, 3. Halikodlu, . 4. Santhekatte. He visited 38 houses and contacted 50 persons individually in those villages. He gave message in Malpe, Uchila, Koppa, Pangala Churches. Mr. Srinivas and Sadashiva are very much interested in hearing the Gospel. Kindly remember these two persons in your prayers.

Noliyasahi—Puri : Mr. Daud Sagar.

He arranged for a special prayer meeting on 29th March when some Hindu people also attended. On that day he met a young man who is now practising law and told him the gospel. Pray for him. During the month Mr. Daud Sagar conducted regular prayer meetings and school work. He also visited some non-christian families and distributed tracts among the people.

Basai : Mr. P. Moses, Mr. J. Dhayananthan & Mr P. C. Singh.

In Basai, this is harvest season. Hence it is very difficult to meet the people in their homes. However, the evangelists spread message of God by singing songs and playing guitar. They were hearing and realising the Salvation message. Sunday schools were conducted in Babina CNI Church regularly.

Prayer requests : 1. For Mr. Varghese, Katasarakala and his family spiritual growth and for the job he is expecting. 2. For the Basai Blacksmith families. 3. For Mr. Rajesh H. Sherving & family, Mathatila Dam.

Pentakottah—Puri: Rev. Paul Sanjeevi.

As usual they conducted cottage prayer-meeting and Sunday schools regularly. Women's Fellowship work is done by Mrs.

Mariamma, Bible woman. The following ladies have accepted Jesus Christ.

1. Ammaramma, 2. Laxmama, 3. Karulu, 4. Navharju. Please remember them in your prayers.

South Tamil Area : K. Victor Henry

He reports that the following were elected office-bearers for the year 1986 for Aruppukottai NMS Branch.

1.	President	:	Rev. Selvin Samuel, M.A., B.D.
2.	Vice Presidents	:	1. Mr. Franklin, 2. Mr. Gnaniah Rabindranath
3.	Area Secretary	:	Mr. Asirvatha Devaraj
4.	Area Joint Secretary	:	Mr. John Mohandoss
5.	Treasurer	:	Mr. S. Jebaraj.

Let us pray that the newly elected members may dedicate themselves to serve our Lord through the N.M.S. and that they receive all the support and help from God's people.

Singtam : Mr. & Mrs. V. T. Abraham.

Mr. Abraham writes that new members are attending the Prayer meetings at Singtam and Gangtok. This includes the non Christians and Roman Catholics. An Officer in the MES and Mrs. Murali have shown interest in the Gospel message. The officer was given a New Testament.

Your prayers are requested that the new comers to the prayer meetings may find Christ and follow Him.

2. Mr. Mungundar, Mrs. Murali, and others who are interested in the Gospel may accept Jesus Christ.

3. Mrs. Sudamani a non Christian lady whose leg was broken in an accident, was visited and prayed. She was told the love of Jesus.

Khamdong : Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Bal

Sunday School, Womens Fellowship and Bible Studies are the common programmes in Khandong. A few children who are from the lepers family are attending the Sunday School. About 30-40

believers are coming together for worship. Besides these regular programmes Mr. Daniel Bal has visited other places and distributed tracts.

Pray for: 1. For the members of the Subba family, who are showing interest in the gospel. 2. The believers may be strengthened in the faith.

Rhemok: Mr. & Mrs. Birsingh Ademu Lepcha

New contacts were made at Parsab Basti and Bhulauke Basti, where Newar, Brahmin and Limbu caste people are living. A few people in this place have shown interest in the gospel.

Besides a few other villages were visited and contacted people personally. Mr. Lepcha writes.

"It was an ample opportunity to many people to hear the good news first in their life time".

He has also visited five schools and contacted the teachers and students.

Praise God for the people who have heard the gospel for the first time in their life and pray for all those who have expressed their willingness to know more about the love of Jesus.

Nepal: At present the N.M.S. has no evangelists in Nepal. Please pray that the Lord of the mission may give us evangelists who would go to Nepal.

Ludhiana—Punjab: Miss Salina Rakha

Open air preaching, gospel tract distribution, selling of gospels and new testments, visiting the sick are the regular work done by Miss. Salina Rakha. Your prayers are requested: 1. for peace in Punjab. 2. for the people, who have listened to the word of God and who are reading the tracts and gospels.

Mallihabad: Mr. & Mrs. Mahesh Chandra

The student Islamic movement and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad people have opposed the proclamation of the gospel both in Mallihabad and Kakori, because, a few people wanted to follow Jesus both from Hindus and Muslims.

Mr. Mahesh Chandra was beaten and slapped on his face and they snatched away his hand bag. Your prayers are requested for the work in this particular area. Let us also praise God for the opposition and pray that the Lord may touch a few souls in Mallihabad which is predominantly a Muslim area. Pray also that the Lord may protect Mr. Mahesh Chandra from all possible attacks from the fanatic groups.

Lukkimpur Kheri: Mr. & Mrs. Sampath James

Due to constant and regular contact a few people have accepted Jesus. This is mainly because of personal contacts. People in the villages have asked the question "why are you coming again and again and telling stories to children and talking to us".

Please pray for:

1) for those who have accepted Him may be firm in their faith.

2) People who are contacted personally may accept Jesus Christ.

3) for the following people M/s Moideen, Piji Shankar Avasthi, Sri Vastha, Ramanth Shukla, Jagdish Singh, Popa Santosh Anandji, Mrs. Jairaj Singh, Dr. E. A. Laberi Alish, and Pandi Pramod Kumar.

Mr. Santosh Anandji, who is known as Swamiji, belongs to an ashram and is the leader of the group. He had lost his eye sight. During the conversation he was told about the love of Jesus explaining several things from the word of God. Finally, he had asked the evangelist to pray to God and get him the sight. This Swamiji has accepted Christ. He needs our prayers.

Mr. Sampath James has narrated several other incidents in proclaiming the good news. He writes :

"One Mr. Promod Kumar a pandit, was told the gospel. "He is an educated youngmen. He has studied the Vedas and yet he had no peace and joy in his life, and he did not know the way for deliverance from the bondage of sin". Gospel was proclaimed to him and what Jesus can do for him. He prayed "Lord Jesus come into my heart and may my heart be as your temple and take control of my life.". After the prayer he expressed as "Thus far I lived in darkness and I have come to the light".

Kulathupuzha : Mr. & Mrs. Papachan and Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

It was reported in the previous issue of the N. M. I. that Mr. Panchavarnan and family of the Kuvakadu plantation have accepted Jesus Christ and expressed their willingness to take baptism. They were baptised on 6—4—86, by the C.S.I. Moderator I. Jesudason. Please pray that this family may stand firm in their faith and be witnesses for His saving Grace. Mr. Panchavarnan is a leader in that area. Let us praise God for His continuous work among the Tamil repatriates in Kulathupuzha area.

Mr. & Mrs. Prabhudas.

They are the newly appointed evangelists at Bijapur. They are very brisk and active in preaching the gospel. Uttinal and Hegadichal were selected by them for gospel work. They camped in these villages stayed for the night, and prached God's message and distributed tracts. They sang songs to the accompaniment of musical instruments. This attracted several people to witness the preaching and hear God's message. The villagers particularly wanted the evangelists to preach in the night as they would be out during day time to eke their livelihood. This request was complied with. These gospel meetings have evoked great interest and an awakening. As a result Mr. Mallappa, Shanker, Bokavendra, Annumthia, Ranappa, Sathasevan and Parseranan of Uttinal village and Siddavashi, Devanthira and Mr. Basaing of Hegadichal village have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Please remember them in your prayers.

The promotional work of N.M.S. has been further expanded at Vellore on 16th May 1986 by the Branch Formation at Gandhinagar Vellore with following members as the office-bearers.

President — J. Asirvatham

Treasurer — B. A. Daniel

Secretary — Dr. Rajamanickam

May the Lord guide and strengthen them as they launch out in this new venture for the Lord.

David Suresh,
Org. Secretary.

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BIO DATA OF MRS. HILDA ISAACS
Winner National Award for Teachers 1984

Mrs. Hilda Isaacs was born on 20th Sep. 1932. After a brilliant academic career in Girls Christian High School, Thanjavur and All Saints Training School, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu, she joined the Naval Primary School at Colaba, Bombay in 1962. Her sincere and hard work has been amply rewarded by our Lord. She is at present the supervisor of the Primary Section in Central School No. 2 Coloba, and chosen for the National Award for Teachers, 1984.

During the last 24 years of her service as a Teacher, she has earned popularity among the students and their parents by her sincerety, co-operation and hardwork. She corrects the assignments given to her students regularly. She takes part in all the welfare activities for the Children in her School. She keeps herself aware of the growing knowledge in her subjects by reading books, journals and other material. She has earned high appreciation for assistance in organising co-curricular activities of the School. She fosters healty relations with the teachers and motherly attitude towards students. She maintains a high standard of morality in school diseipline. She has always been participating in Social service camps organised by the church. She is a Social leader, a kind hearted teacher and gets respect from all quarters.

OBITUARY

Mr. M. N. Banerjee had his home call on 22nd Feb. 1986 after a prolonged illness. He was the treasurer of the West Bengal Area Committee for more than 12 years. He was also involved in the work of the Bible Society and other Christian Organisations. A memorial service was arranged at the Central Methodist Church in Calcutta.

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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

PETER IN THE GOSPELS *(contd.)*

PETER'S CONFESSION

Mark 8:27-29 Luke 9:18-20 Matthew 16:13-20

Peter was introduced to Christ and later he was called out from the place of work to follow the footsteps of Jesus. He wanted to do things as Jesus did. His desire was accepted by his master and we have seen what happened to him when he looked around. That incident made others to believe in Jesus.

(Please read the above passages)

There are 3 or 4 things which could be noted as important in the above passages.

1. **The circumstances :**

a) Jesus and his disciples were in Caesarea Phillipi area.

b) Jesus had performed miracles, which were seen by the disciples.

c) Jesus had fed a great multitude of people with 5 loaves and two fish.

d) A great multitude of people followed Jesus including a few of the religious leaders. A good number of the people from Saducees and scribes questioned, who is this man ? what authority has he to perform ? The discourse after feeding more than five-thousand people made to question many things. John 6th chapter.

e) Disciples themselves in their mind would have wondered "who is this man ? Although they were taken up with this miracle.

2. **Two-fold questions of Jesus and answers :**

a) Who do man say I am ? What is the thinking of people about me ? Jesus was trying to assess of the situation to impelement His plan of salvation. Jesus asked this to the ones who were with Him and who have listened to the conversation of people. No

wonder a few might have asked the disciples "who is this man." Probably disciples themselves would have made some sort of an assessment with the people about their thinking of Jesus.

The gathered information was passed on to Jesus saying as "John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah and one of the prophets has risen." People have compared Jesus with the people who were in forefront in the history of Israelites.

To begin with they spoke about John the baptist who was a contemporary of Jesus who introduced Jesus to the people of that time. He was murdered by King Herod. John the baptist was the one who spoke about the evils of King Herod. Even when King Herod heard about Jesus he was frightened. John that baptist preached to the hearts of men and women of that time. A fearless messenger of God. People were cut in their lives. He demanded the then generation for a change of heart, and called the people for repentance and forgiveness of sins. (Please read Luke 2:3-20, 7:18-30, John 1:15-36, Mark 6:14-20. From this portion you will get a clear picture of John the baptist).

Secondly, they referred him to Elijah. Elijah was one of the Old Testament prophets who fought with the evil kings of his time who ruled the Israelites (Please refer I Kings 17:1 onwards). His boldness in speaking for the Lord in the midst of enemies. He was a man who stood for the living God. He spoke God's word and fought against the political ills of the time. He was willing to obey God. He called the people for a decision to serve the Living God and not the false gods like Baal. The king wanted to slay him.

Thirdly, he was compared to one of the prophets—who is risen. We find in the Old Testament a number of prophets who were called of God to speak for Him from various walks of life. Here the people had the idea that one of the prophets had risen. The belief of resurrection after death was prevailing even in those days. They thought a prophet like John the baptist or Elijah had risen from the dead.

b) "Who do you say I am ?" In other words Jesus asked them to express the opinion of His own disciples who were with Him in the past months and may be around 3 years, who have seen all the miracles Jesus performed and all what He has spoken. The question was put before all the disciples. Jesus wanted to know how far they have understood Him.

It was Peter to answer to Jesus, before anyone else put forth his answer. He has expressed it as the Gospel writers have written:

You are the Christ

The Christ of God

You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

All the 3 Gospel writers have the common word "The Christ" the Saviour. Matthew in his writing has written "You are the Christ, the son of the Living God. "Christ" was the common title given to Jesus. It means as "anointed, the anointed one, the Messiah" a title applied to the coming King expected by the Jews. Peter was expecting a coming King and had understood Him as the anointed one whom he was expecting. Peter was able to grasp the truth. When people were comparing Jesus with John the Ba, tist and as one of the prophets, Peter expressed that He is the coming King. In Him Peter found the fulfilment of the expectation of Jesus. In expressing "You are the Christ" he accepts that he was accepting the King and now he has seen Him as his King, as his Ruler. He has accepted Him as the one who has come to rule him.

Jesus was spoken as the son of man as we see in the gospels, but Peter has understood Him not as the son of man but as the son of the Living God. The divineness of Jesus was confessed by Peter.

Peter had understood Jesus step by step but now he has come to the point where he expresses that He is the King, the Son of the Living God. Acceptance and confession is left to the choice of men and women who want to follow Him. He had come to this state, because he was convinced. The confession was based on the experience he had with Jesus.

To proclaim Jesus as the Saviour and King, one has to be convinced and experienced. Many christians fail to confess Christ, because they are not convinced and experienced of Him.

What is your conviction today? Have you come to the place where you could confess Christ to others who have not understood Him? (to be continued)

J. M. JAYASINGH,

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

RCSF Camp :

My previous letter dated 22-5-86 was written hurriedly because I was leaving for the RCSF camp in Jamnamarathur. The camp in Jamnamarathur took place from 23rd May to 1st June 1986. There were 34 participants and out of them 14 young people took decisions to follow Jesus particularly to move into the full-time ministry. This year we had another small camp in Kulathupuzha for Kerala young people. There were only ten members who participated at the camp.

There are a number of friends who contributed for the expenditure of the camp. On behalf of the Society and my behalf I am thankful to all of them who prayed and contributed for the camp expenditure. This is an annual camp which will be held during the month of May.

Sad news :

Mr. Solomon Rajayya, the Hon. Organising Secretary for Mid-Tamil area had his home call on 9th May 1986. The same day Mr. A. H. Khan, the Hon. Associate General Secretary for North India also had his home call. Both of them have contributed much to the cause of N.M.S. It is difficult to fill up the places of these two stalwarts. Please pray that the Lord may enable us to find out proper people to fill up these vacancies.

Retirements :

Mr. K. Chandy, the Org. Secretary for Kerala will retire on 30th June 1986. But the Committee decided to appoint him as the Promotional Secretary for Central Kerala for another two years.

Mr. D. S. Dharmaraj, the senior-most man in the office, rather in the Society who has served the Society for the past 41 years will be retiring on 31st July 1986.

Gratuity :

Thus far the N.M.S. had no gratuity scheme nor the pension scheme because most of the men in the N.M.S. worked for a few years and left seeking some other employment in some other organisations or in the church. The Standing Committee which met in the month of February decided to begin the gratuity scheme. Accordingly the above two men will be benefited by the scheme and we need to find funds for this. So the Committee has also decided to set apart Rs. 15,000/- every year for gratuity fund. We would welcome if anyone of you would like

to contribute something towards this particular project, may be at the time when you retire and get some benefits from the government.

We are also considering the pension scheme and matters are under study for the benefit of the people who will be retiring in the future.

Org. Secretary for Mid-Tamil Area :

Mr. Thangaraj Madhuram of Tanjore is appointed as the Hon. Org. Secretary for Mid-Tamil area. He will be working in the place of Mr. Solomon Rajayya.

New Recruitment :

One Mr. Ignatius of Trivandrum is selected for appointment and he will be going to Bihar Sherrif. There are a few other candidates who will be interviewed during this month to be posted in different places.

Resignations :

Mr. & Mrs. Aruldoss who worked in Jawadhi hills were selected by the Vellore Diocese for Theological education and they have left the N.M.S.

Refresher Course :

Ten of our evangelists were sent to the Summer school at Bangarapet and to the Henry Martin Institute at Mussorie. They have all returned back refreshing their minds and enriching their spiritual life for the work which they are called.

Summer :

Almost a hot summer is over. Yet it is hot in certain parts of the country particularly in Central and North India and we need to pray for the evangelists who are in the North Indian states.

Schools have re-opened and our children have started going back to the schools and most of the parents are troubled and worried about their children. It is our duty to pray for the children who are attending the schools and colleges during these days. Let us uphold them in our prayers.

Finance :

The income for the work during the past two months has come down very much. So we had to borrow Rs. 28,000/- from another fund which has to be repaid immediately. The same situation also may prevail during this month and in the next month. But as I see there is no possibillty of borrowing from any fund. So we need your earnest prayers and your willingness in supporting the work regularly. Please also request your friends and relatives to join hands with the work of the

Society. We appreciate to thank God for your helping hand.

Annual Sale:

The Madras City Area Committee is making every effort to have its annual sale on the 15th of August 1986 at the Ewarts School. Let us all join together in strengthening their hands as they are anticipating to raise atleast Rs. one and a half lakhs through the collection and the sale proceeds.

May the Lord be with you all.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

Wanted

"We invite application for the post of Lady doctors specialists in Gyneacologists and M.B.B.S. for J.B.M. Hospital Anantnag, Kashmir Valley. Please address your quiries and application to the Rev. Y. Paljor, Chairman, Working Committee, All Saints' Church, Srinagar-190 001.

Announcement

Annual Sale 1986: The Madras City Area Committee will be conducting its Annual Sale on 15th of August 1986 at the CSI Ewart Higher Secondary School.

YOU ARE REQUESTED TO PRAY AND PARTICIPATE

Congratulations

The Rev. D. Elias who worked with the N.M.S. in Jawadhi Hills from 1964—1977 was given the Yoke Fellow award from a Western Missionary Society for his service among the tribals.

The Rev. Elias is working among the tribals in Kalrayam Hills since 1977.

We rejoice with him as he has received the Yoke Fellow award which comes to about Rs. 12,000/- which he has donated to the Kanyakumari Diocesan Prayer Band.

GENERAL SECRETARY

FIELD REPORTS

JAWADI HILLS :

Allery : Mrs. & Mr. P. Charles

As usual follow up contacts were made, Tracts distributed, Sunday Classes and Sunday Services conducted regularly, visited 20 villages, contacted 83 persons, heard their problems, prayed for them and shared the message of God with tham. Prayer meetings were held in 8 houses.

Pudur Nadu : Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews

During the month 34 persons were contacted for the first time and another 21 persons as follow up contact. Gospel meetings were held in Puliyur village and the message of God was conveyed to the little ones by songs and stories. In the open air preachings in Keelur village many came to know about the love of God. Spreading His message through the distribution of tracts has its own effect and one Mr. Thiruvendagam has taken a pledge not to drink hereafter. In the open air preaching in Amalapattu village several attended and of them Mr. Maran, Mr. Thukkan and Mr. Raman can be singled out for having learnt about the love of God. In Pudur Nadu the evangelists families and some others assemble together on Sundays and spend some time with God in prayers besides conducting Sunday classes.

Kattiankudisai : Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakkam

He reports that Mr. Ponnusamy of Kavithi Kudisai is working there as branch post master and living with his wife and two children. This family evinced great interest in hearing the Gospel message. Mr. Ponnusamy's wife expired suddenly at the time of confinement and this has come as a great shock to him. Let us pray for this family. that the Lord God may comfort them and they grow stronger in the faith of God. Mr. Chinnasamy of Valliyar wanted to be baptised and sought the permission of his parents. When this was turned down he refused to take food for two days and threw a challenge to his parents saying that whatever be their opposition he will certainly be baptised. Please pray for this soul.

Kandili Karagapatti : Mrs. & Rev. A. Thiraviam

Rev. Thiraviam reports that because of his ill health he was not able to visit many villages. Our Lord has restored him to good health. All praise to Him. The evangelists frequently visit Mr.

Bharathy at his house in Nallappanoor. This youngster attends prayers regularly and is eager in hearing the message of God. He has come forward to accept Christ and live for Him. Mr. Kasi alias Stephen of Karagapatti village who has accepted Christ and is baptised is confronted with opposition from many. Please remember the above in your prayers. Mrs. Thiraviam wants us to pray for Sumathi, Nagamma, Kamala, Ambika and Santhi who have heard the message of God may accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Veerappannoor : Mrs. & Mr. Robert John

Visited 16 villages contacted families and individuals and carried the word of God to them. The people of Valthambai village evince great interest in hearing the Gospel. Mr. Duraikkannan has bought a New Testament and is reading it with great interest. Let us pray that by reading the Bible he understands the hidden truths and accepts Christ. The wife of Mr. Kolandai of Ettimarathur village was suffering from severe fever and after prayers by the evangelists and preaching of the Gospel she was cured. Praise God. One Mr. Pandian of Veerappannoor on 21—4—1986 in a drunken mood abused the evangelist with filthy language and was in the mood to assult them with knife and chappals. As a result the attendance of students attending night classes has gone down. Let us pray that our Lord God give a change of heart to those evil doers and that they accept Jesus Christ.

Gundalathur : Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel

Their prayer requests are :

1) Mr. Nagarajan a believer who is ready for baptism is suffering from severe pain in his eyes. Pray that he be relieved of that pain.

2) Chinnapillai an old lady is an asthama patient. She is ready for baptism. But this is opposed by her family and the villagers. Pray that the barriers be broken.

3) For spreading the Gospel message to the Glory of God through tracts distribution, night schools and medical help.

Thongumalai : Mrs. & Mr. A. Chandrasekharan

Visited 20 villages and contacted more than 200 persons and preached the word of God to them. Mrs. Sekaran who was admitted in Govt. Hospital Madras for treatment after cure has joined her

husband in the field in his evangelical work. Three students of Athipet school who were baptised have passed 8th std. Three persons have accepted Christ. Let us pray and praise God for His above mercies.

Punjab: Miss Salina Rekha

She reports that open air peachings were done in several places and nearly 2000 tracts were distributed. She also states that ten New Testaments and five Bibles wore sold. Visited 40 houses and prayed for the distressed people. Also visited three hospitals and had fellowship with patients and prayed for them. Two Hindu brothers are reading the Bible daily. Pray that they accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Prayers also needed for the evangelist's mother who is sick.

Srinagar: Mrs. & Mr. Tahir Masih

To preach the word of God in this part of the country is an arduous task and there is stiff opposition. In spite of this, the evangelist does his work to the Glory of God. Had a special meeting with a gathering of about 50 people when the Gospel message was imparted to them Out of these fifty, five have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. It is also significant to note that among the five one Mr. Gulam Ahmed who is a doctor by profession wants to take baptism. Please pray for him. Also distributed about one thousand tracts and sold twenty five New Testaments and ten Bibles.

Basai: Mr. Dhayananthan, Mr. Skariachan & Mr. Jacob

Mr. Skariachan & Mr. Jacob are the two newly appointed evan-evangelist. They are learning Hindi. Let us pray that these two youngsters may learn Hindi soon, get themselves accustomed to local conditions and that God may use them wonderfully in His ministry. These three joined together in conducting open air preacings. The response is reported to be good. They visited Mr. Karansingh a land lord at his house and prayed for his illness and also told him about the love of God. This person has recovered from his illness. Student Rakesh of Basai High School is all praise for God on his promotion from VII std., as he firmly believes that his prayers were heard by our Lord. A young girl named Aasi who is attending the Sunday Classes regularly is interested in knowing more and more about Jesus Christ. Let us pray for all these individuals.

Chakarpur : Mr. C. Devanesan

He reports that because of the terrible heat he was able to do Gospel work only in the evenings. Because of the very hot climate he suffered from severe fever and exhaustion. However, our Lord gave him good health and enabled him to resume his work. There is opposition by youngsters to the preaching of gospel in Ruspura, Pattari, Manpur and Gopalapura. We need to pray that these oppositions sink away and that the evangelists do the work of God more mightily. Prayers also needed for Mr. Karan Singh, Nel Singh and Mr. Madhan and their families for their growing faith in Jesus Christ. Mr. Neelakantan serving in the army, Mr. Krishnan an electrician and another Pratab Singh are reading the Bible regularly and are coming closer to God.

Hittanhalli : Mrs. & Mr. Prabhudoss

Held Bible Study in the residences of Mr. Daniel and Mr. Asoke where about 10 persons attended. Mr. Kusappa who is one among the ten is ready to accept Jesus Christ. Another brother of Mr. Kusappa is a staunch believer in idol worship. Pray for them. Also conducted Bible study in Jumanal and Uttinal villages. Youth and old people are attending, the Bible study. Mr. Muniappa and Mr. Shankar attending these Bible study courses are interested in hearing the word of God. Pray for them.

Rev. R. R. Vyas :

In Bangaon when the Gospel message was preached some bank employees who had come there to collect loan instalments wanted to create trouble and spoke ill of Christians and christianity. But the Holy Spirit prevailed and spoke to them. After hearing God's message they left without creating anymore scene and also purchased some gospel books.

In Manipur the response to the Gospel message was so good, that people wanted the evangelists to visit them again.

One Magaon family in Karpadi village who had back slided repented for it and came back to the fold of our Lord again. He now wants to be baptised. In Sitvabari while they were speaking a man in drunken mood came and shouted at them and disturbed the meeting. Unperturbed, the evangelists calmed him down and spoke about the love of God. After prayers the man came to his senses and was very humble.

Pray for all the above mentioned facts.

Lukkimpurkherri: Mrs. & Mr. Sampath James

These evangelists were deputed to Henry Martyn Institute of Islamic Studies, Hyderabad from 1st to 10th of May 1986 for a refresher course. After completing the course and returning to their field, they have reported that the study is very useful and has given a new filip to them to work among Muslims. They are able to clear the doubts of the Muslims and make them understand that Jesus Christ is the only living God.

The evangelists have reported of some incidents during their evangelical work and they are briefed below.

In Rengellapurva village a predominantly Muslim village, tracts were distributed and personal contacts were made. Many received tracts and also purchased gospels and evinced great interest in the messages they convey. Mr. Kasirtekhan a teacher is one such person who reads the Bible regularly and wants to learn more about Jesus. Through him, the evangelists are able to contact more Muslim youngsters.

Mr. M. A. Rahman Khan is a Muslim leader and is working as a wireless Engineer. When contacted by the evangelists he wanted several of his doubts to be cleared. He was given a copy of Gospel of St. John and tracts carrying the message of ten commandments. After going through them, he had expressed that he was greatly attracted by the ten commandments of our Lord and he will try to lead a life accordingly.

Mr. Jagjeevanram of Santpur village had expressed to the evangelist that he is not able to understand who is the real God even after reading several religious books. He was given a copy of the New Testament and told that this is the book of books and if he reads it, he will accept Jesus Christ as his Saviour. This person is coming closer to God.

We need to remember all the above persons in our prayers that they accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and also bring many more to the Kingdom of God.

New Fruits from Kandili

1. Mr. Stephen :

I am a native of Karagapatti village in N.A. Dist. aged 20 years and have studied up to VIIIth std. My name is Kasi alias Stephen. My father's name is Munisamy and we belong to Thotti Naicker Caste. Our Profession is witch-craft and jugglery. Rev. Thiraviam N.M.S. Evangelist at Kandili Karagapatti explained to me the love of God and told that belief in witch craft and jugglery will only lead to hell. I began to read the Bible and came to know that the profession I rely upon is dangerous. I left that and went to church often. On 20—4—1986, I gave myself to God and was baptised. As a result, I am facing banishment from my parents, relatives and villagers and my community people are to fine me. I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and I am prepared to face all the ordeals and in no circumstances will I go back. Please pray that I may be firm in my faith in Jesus to the last and be a standing witness for Him.

Kasi alias Stephen

2. Mr. Jebakumar:

My name is Isakkiappan alias Jebakumar and I am 30 years. My family members are staunch believers in the Hindu God Murugan, Ganapathy and Sivaperumal. They believe that Lord Siva is the creator of the world and all human beings are in his palms and taken care of by him. I was under the belief that Jesus is the God of a foreign land and we have no relation with Him. When Rev. Thiraviam, N.M.S. Evangelist met me and told about the love of God, I was still not convinced and put to him several questions. I asked him, "will not the villagers abuse me if I accept Christ and are not the Gods we worship real Gods ?" At last my doubts were cleared and I openly accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour and was baptised on 20—4—1986. Whatever be the opposition from my parents, relatives and villagers, I will be steadfast in my faith in Christ till the last. Please pray for me and my parents.

Jebakumar

OBITUARY

1. Mr. E. Kandaswamy Joshua aged 68 years, one of the oldest members of C.S.I. Ulaga Meetpar Alayam, Royapuram and a member of N.M.S. of India, Royapuram Area expired on 28—4—1986. He has left his behind, wife, daughter, sons and grand children to mourn his loss. May his Soul Rest in Peace.

2. Mrs. Joyce Owen, aged 98 years, wife of Late Mr. Owen Joseph, Inspector of Police, Nagercoil and mother of Septimus Owen, Convenor of Royapuram Branch of N.M.S. of India expired on 3—5—1986. Her mortal remains were interned at the C.S.I. Home Church, Nagercoil. She was a staunch supporter of N.M.S. of India, Nagercoil Branch. She has left behind sons, daughters, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law and grand children to mourn her loss. May her Soul Rest in Peace.

3. Mr. C. S. Oommen, one of the oldest members of N.M.S. entered the eternal bliss on 11th April 1986, at Coimbatore. He had actively associated himself with the activities of NMS at Honauvur Mission Field in Karnataka, while he was the Principal of St. Thomas Hr. Secondary School.

Subsequent to his retirement, he settled down at Coimbatore, where he spared no efforts and played a significant role to have the NMS introduced among the Marthoma Church members effeetively. Even four days before his demise, he attended the NMS Branch local Executive Committee meeting and came farward with concrete suggestions to strengthen the NMS at Coimbatore.

He has left behind his wife, a daughter and a son. It is really a loss to his dear ones and in particular to the NMS, at large. May His soul rest in Peace.

4. **Mr. A. H. Khan :**

Mr. Abiel Mammond Khan (Hon. Associate General Secretary) had his Home Call on 9th May 1986 at the age of 72 at his residence in Lucknow. He was born on April 12th 1914 at Ferozpur in Punjab. He received his commerce Diploma in Shorthand and typing from Lucknow Christian College and graduated from the same College in 1933.

He had worked in several Christian Institutions such as Church Mission Birket High School, Hewitt Engineering School, Lucknow

Christian College, Government Service and Isabella Thobourn College and retired in 1976. Later on, he worked with different church Heads in Lucknow.

The National Missionary Society of India was his first love and since 1949, the year he established its local Branch in Lucknow, there was no turning back for him. He supervised it in its initial stages and nursed it like a mother till it came into its present size and stature. It was very right on the part of N.M S. of India to recognise Mr. Khan's selfless services by appointing him as an area Secretary and later on as an Associate Hony. General Secretary of N.M.S. for all he had done to promote its scope in North India. It would not be out of place if he be called the patriarch of the N.M.S. of India movment in North India. In his death a stately column has fallen from N.M.S I.

Mr. Khan was highly respected in and outside his work circle. He always longed for close fellowship with others and his hospitality and warm fellowship had always won appreciation from his friends and colleagues. We feel fortunate to have had his personal qualities left a permanent impression on us.

We are indeed grateful to God for his life and for the contributions he made both in secular and spiritual fields. As a pioneer of NMS workers, as a zealous church man and above all as a true Christian he will always be remembered by us all.

We commend Mrs. Khan, her children, grand children and all relatives to God Almighty Eternal care and pray Him to grant them comfort at their hour of great loss.

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5. **Mr. Solomon Rajayya** (Hon. Organising Secretary)

Mr. Solomon Rajayya had his Home Call on the 9th May 1986. He was a retired Tahsildar of the Tamilnad Government. Even while he was in service, he was doing the Gospel work along with the Gospel Team of our Lord and fish men and women for the work. He came in contact with the N.M.S. sometime during the year 1964 [illegible] more interest in the work of the N.M.S. from 1972 when [illegible]ayasingh the Organising Secretary visited Tanjore. Later on, [illegible] took up the work as the Hon. Organising Secretary for Mid Tamil Area. The N.M.S. wanted to give him a small Honororium but he refused to receive the same and he said "the Government is paying me pension so I will do the work as Hon. Organising Secretary".

He formed many branches in different parts of Mid Tamil Nadu along with me and Mr. D. W. Herbert. He was a lay preacher. However, he wanted to have a presbyter in the Team, and it was he who brought me into the N.M.S. since 1980 though I had connection with the N.M.S. camp at Chidambaram during the year 1949—1950.

He was primarily an evangelist and he took every opportunity to tell of our Lord Jesus Christ to those whom he met. It was by his very hard work he was able to start the N.M.S. Sale on 2nd October. Twelve years back he was able to collect Rs. 10,000/- by the Annual Sales. He lived a meaningful life for Christ and for the spread of His Kingdom. He has left behind his wife who always went along with him for the work and two sons and two daughters and their families to mourn his loss.

By his death NMS has lost a stalwart in the Mid Tamil Area.

Rev. George Gnanamuthu,
Tanjore.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

PETER IN THE GOSPELS

PETER ON THE MOUNT WITH JESUS

Matthew 17: 1-8, Mark 9: 2-8, Luke 9: 28-36

(Please read the above passages)

Jesus confronted the disciples trying to find the pulse of the disciples of their knowledge about Him. Peter was quick in answering. We also note that Jesus recognised his answer and said "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jonah. For flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father who is in heaven. (Matt. 16:17).

Jesus had James, John and Peter in his inner circle of disciples. He took these three disciples with Him to the high mountain where He was transfigured. He expected them to see the glory of transfiguration. It is stated "And He was transfigured before them" (Matt. 17: 2a).

At the mount the disciples particularly Peter was able to see Jesus in His glory. Peter was able to see with Him the two great leaders of the Old Testament. Moses was the deliverer, the law-giver and the friend of God. Elijah was the prophet of God who fought for God and His cause against the idolatrous leaders of the nation. Both these men lived for God in their time. Peter had the privilege of seeing his fore-fathers who lived for God and with God.

REACTION OF PETER

Seeing the Old Testament Heroes with Jesus at the mount, Peter expressed himself so quickly.

1) Lord it is good to be here. Yes it is good to be in the place where the Saints of God are. It is good to be in the Sanctuary of God in worshipping and listening to His word. It is good to be in the prayer meetings, church services, conventions and conferences. It is good to be away from the calamities and troubles of the world, It is good to be away from work and people, but only with God. Man longs to be with God in communion with Him. Being with Him in His presence, we tend to forget everything of the world and in the world. Yes even we crave for such experiences.

2) "If thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles, one for Thee, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

A wonderful plan was submitted before Jesus for His approval. Having experienced something supernatural, Peter tended to forget the purpose of following Christ. Quite often, people who are called of God to follow Him and to be His disciples would like to remain in and within the experiences instead of moving out of Him.

We note Peter seeking permission from Jesus to make tents for them. He thought that Jesus will approve his plan. Today we find the children of God making their own organisations to have their own kingdoms, and yet they say "this is from God and it is His will." It is also sad to note that Peter told one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah. Peter had yet to understand the purpose of His call and Jesus' plan for this world. It is stated "For he did not know what to say, for they were exceedingly afraid" (Mark 9: 6). The word of God says "For he did not know what to say." Quite often we come into such conclusions because we do not know what to say and what to do and not able to understand God's plan for us.

VOICE FROM ABOVE

They saw the cloud overshadowing them and also heard a voice from the cloud. "This is my beloved son, listen to Him" (Mark 9:7; Matt 17: 5, Luke 9: 35).

The voice spoke to the disciples who were there on the mount with Jesus. The voice introduced Jesus to the disciples saying "This is my beloved Son." It also demanded to listen to Him or hear Him. A direction, a demand, a command to listen. The disciples, particularly Peter had to listen to Him and not have his own way in the plan of salvation. Anyone who is a chosen servant of God needs to listen to Him in his daily work, in his concern for the perishing souls. While we plan things for the extension of God's kingdom, are we able to listen to His voice? While in prayer we speak to Him, uttering many things about us and our concerns, but we do not take time to listen to Him.

When they heard the voice, they were "afraid". God's voice makes the man to be afraid. Peter and his co-disciples... "Heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid" (Matt. 17:6). We hear the word of God and take it for granted, even it does not touch our skin. We servants of God and His Children need to tremble before Him. Let us allow the spirit of God to speak to us.

Spirit of the Living God
Fall afresh on me

Break me, melt me,
mould me and fill me
Spirit of the Living God
Fall afresh on me.

JESUS ALONE Luke 9:36, Mark 9:8, Matt 17:7-8.

When they were afraid and they were on their faces—Jesus came to them and encouraged them. He is there to lift you up when you are on your faces; because you are afraid. He is right there to lift you up.

They saw only Jesus and not the heroes of the Old Testament. We think and talk highly of people glorifying one another and not Jesus. We talk about the people whom we do not like and forget to talk about Jesus. Are we like that? Do we have the vision of Jesus and His love towards the people of this world?

We would like to have emotional and spiritual experiences, but do we see Him, above our plans, above the Heroes of faith, above everything in the world? He is the king, Lord of everything, saviour of the world. Let us see Him! (To be continued)

J. M. JAYASINGH

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AN APPEAL

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WE PRAY GOD ALMIGHTY TO FIND A DONOR FOR THE SAME IN MEMORY OF HIS/HER BELOVED.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly Beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I trust most of you would have received my last letter dated 19—6—'86 in which I have given you some information about the Society's activities.

Finance :

We thank God who supplied the needed funds to disburse the salary for the months of June and July. During the month of June we had difficulty in disbursing the salary and at the last moment I received a telephone information from one of the Organising Secretaries that he is sending Rs. 7,000/- and the next day, it reached us and we were able to send the salaries for the month of June. For the month of July also we faced the same problem. On 28th morning with great burden in my heart I went for a prayer meeting and after that, a few members of the Madras City Area Committee and myself visited one of the Area Committee members and after having had the prayers, we moved out of the house. But I was called in alone and the Area Committee member enquired about the financial position and I shared my concern. Immediately he paid me a lumpsum amount and the same day myself and Mr. V. G. Williams visited another gentleman inthe city who wanted us to go over to his house and collect Rs. 5,000/- which he was keeping for the work of the NMS, and with this money we were able to send the salaries. I want you to join me in praising God for His faithfulness. I trust the financial position will improve during this month and we will be able to settle all the bills.

Visit to Amsterdam :

Dr. Billy Graham had called for an International Congress for Itinerint evangelists in Amsterdam and I was one of the invitees. I had the privilege of attending the same. There were 10,000 evangelists which included the staff and stewards of the Conference who came from 174 countries of the world. It was a time of fellowship with one another particularly with people from different countries.

New Recruitments :

We have recruited 7 new evangelists for the work of the Society for various fields. I would like to request you to pray for the new candidates who have come to work with the NMS.

Deputation work :

Missionaries from different fields have come together for deputation work in Tamil Nadu particularly in Madras to conduct prayer meetings in connection with the Annual Sale of the NMS in August.

Some of the missionaries will visit Tanjore, Madurai and a few other places in the South.

Terrorism :

We read quite a lot of news about terrorism in different parts of the world and particularly in certain places in our own country and we need to be concerned over the issue and we also need to pray for the leaders who are trying to tackle this situation. As Christians let us pray for our country and the leaders who are trying to tackle this situation so that there may be peace and harmony among the people.

Let us continue to uphold the NMS work in daily prayers.

With best wishes and prayers.

Yours in His Service,

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

NOTE

It was announced through the April issue of the N.M.I. (P. 5) that the details of the P.J.M. Building dedication will be published in the next issue of the N.M.I., but due to a few urgent items of work we were not able to publish the matters and we shall do it in one of the future issues of the N.M.I.

It is regrettable that we are not able to publish the N. M. I. every month and we shall try to make it up.

Editor, N.M.I.

The N.M.S. Sunday on 12th October 1986

Church heads, institutional heads, Pastors, N.M.S. leaders are requested to plan for the N.M.S. Sunday and week of prayer from 5th to 12th October. N.M.S. Sunday will be on 12th October. Matters for Prayer and praise may be had from the following addresses.

English and Tamil	M.N.S. Office, 206, Peters Road, Royapattah, Madras-14.
Malayalam	Mr. K. Chandy, Mathilunkal House, Near Railway Station, Tiruvella-689 101, Kerala.
Kannada	Mr. J. P. Ashwal, 38/1341, M.H.B., Tilak Nagar, Bombay-400 082.
Hindi	Mr. F. S. Charles, Hon. Org. Secretary, 972, Mission Press compound, Napier Town, Jabalpur, M. P. 482 001.

Special prayers may be offered for evangelization of our country and a special offering or a retiring offering may be taken and sent to the Hon. Treasurer N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-14.

FIELD REPORTS

Athipatti : Mrs. & Mr. O. James Meyyan

He visited 14 villages and contacted 132 tribal men. He has chosen the tribal people for preaching the Gospel especially the tribal children who attend the night classes. There are four baptised persons in Athipatti village. But they have backslided and have gone astray and succumbed to the evil life of the past. Your prayers are required for these persons. It is a matter for concern that 10 persons who had accepted Jesus Christ had turned back to the life of the past. After frequent contacts of these boys in their houses by the evangelist, three have again accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour and are ready to be baptised in Sep. '86. Please pray for these boys.

The evangelist and the Org. Secretary Mr. David Suresh are taking special efforts to get patta for the NMS lands in Athipatti. Efforts in the past in this direction had proved futile. Pray that we get the patta for the lands early and thereby establish the ownership of the NMS to the lands.

Gundalathur : Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel

They have reported about the following contacts.

Mr. Kuppa Gounder

He is a wealthy man and a staunch Hindu. Very difficult to preach the Gospel to him. When the evangelists met him he had asked in what way the so-called christians are better than Hindus. He was told about the love of God, His crucification for our sins and several other truths from the Bible. He was told that he should follow only the ways of Jesus and not of human beings. At last he was somewhat convinced though not fully.

Mrs. Kaliyammal

She spoke to the evangelists about the village deity and their faith in it. At that time some other villagers also gathered around them. To those gathered the evangelists told about the Love of God, how He gave salvation to all, His second coming etc. They heard the Gospel with rapt attention.

Mrs. Chinnapillai

She is an Asthma patient, a firm believer in Christ and ready to be baptised. The two problems she has to face are one, her disease and the other, opposition from her relatives. In spite of all these odds she is firm in her faith and hears the Gospel message regularly. Her daughter's life is also of great concern to her as her daughter and son-in-law are at logger-heads and always quarrel. The son-in-law is a drunkard and daughter has no children. These factors have widened the rift between them.

Periya Pillai, Pappathi and Kuppusamy, all suffering from various ailments were treated by Mrs. Saramma Jeyaraj and were also told the Gospel. The patients are reported to be better.

Let us not forget to pray for all those referred to above.

Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews

They visit villages for Gospel work according to a pre-drawn programme. They spend sometime every Saturday in prayerful fast. Contacted 46 persons afresh and distributed tracts, 23 Gospels and 2 New Testaments. Mr. Narayanan of Mozhalai village, Rangan Vediammal, and Hanuman of Kothanur village have come to know about Christ. Still they have not openly accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Pray for them. Some who have accepted Jesus Christ are terribly afraid of attending the church services because of the village restrictions and customs. Pray that these barriers be broken and that they go to the services fearlessly and with a free heart.

Jamnamarathur : Miss Kokila Rebecca

She is in charge of the Girls Hostel at Jamnamarathur. At present the strength of the hostel is 39. At times some inmates give some minor troubles. Pray that the girls in this hostel lead a disciplined life, respect their warden, study their lessons well and above all glorify His name by leading a good life.

Nadanur : Mrs. & Mr. G. A. Raju

Mr. G. A. Raju was deputed to the Summer School of Evangelism at Bangarapet. He states that the course for six weeks in the school has done a lot in his spiritual life and in his follow-up evangelical work. During his stay there he had an opportunity to give a message about NMS in the Methodist Church at Bangarapet. The believers

Stephen Lakshmanan and his wife Beulah Thangammal are passing through a phase of restlessness in their life. Because of the illness to Mrs. Beulah she is facing all sorts of abuses from the family members. Let us pray that God give good health to Mrs. Beulah and shut the mouths of those who speak ill of her.

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudoss

He reports that Mr. Govindan and his wife Mrs. Rajini have accepted Christ. Mrs. Rajini who was possessed of evil spirits was relieved of them after prayers by the evangelist and came to know about Jesus Christ. They are willing to be baptised. In Athimoor village where nearly 30 people gathered to hear the Gospel, one Mr. Kandasamy a believer wanted a New Testament and this was given to him. Mr. Vellaiyan a believer is suffering from severe pain in his stomach. Despite the doctor's advice to undergo an operation he has refused it and has pinned his faith firmly in God. Let us remember all the persons referred to above in our prayers.

Kandili Karagapatti : Mrs. & Rev. A. Thiraviam

Visited several villages and distributed tracts and New Testaments. One Geetha who was disgusted with life for reasons best known to her, went to the extreme step of ending her life by committing suicide. She was met by the evangelists and was told that Jesus Christ gave His life on the cross to redeem us from our sins and will surely redeem her also from her sins. We have to pray that she accepts Jesus Christ as her Saviour.

Some of the converts i.e. Mr. Stephen Jebakumar, Gnanaprakasam and Prema are facing stiff opposition and threats from the villagers and relatives. The evangelists themselves are often being harassed by those opposed to the preaching of the Gospel. Pray that the evangelists are not disheartened by these obstacles in their work and the Lord God give them the courage and strength to do their work to the Glory of God.

Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakam

Mr. Peter Govindasamy wants the evangelist to visit them atleast once in a fortnight and tell the Gospel and pray so that his wife, children and mother may also accept Jesus Christ and be baptised soon. So also Mr. Ponnusami is desirous that his parents and relatives are baptised and to pray for them. The visit of Rev. Baskaran and his advice has encouraged the evangelists in their work.

Thongumalai : Mrs. & Mr. Chandrasekaran

Visited 25 villages and preached the Gospel to more than one hundred persons. One Cheetaiammal is in the clutches of evil spirit for more than a year. She came to the evangelists voluntarily and confessed that Jesus Christ is the real and true God and wanted to pray for her. After two days of continuous prayers she was rid of the evil spirit. Now she continues to hear the Gospel. Pray for her. In a similar manner another woman of Pillaiyankottai village was also relieved of the evil spirits. Mr. Paramasivam an employee of the E. B. office is keen to know about Jesus Christ. Whenever he visits Thongumalai the evangelists avail the opportunity of preaching the Gospel to him. Please remember all the above persons in your prayers.

Allery : Mrs. & Mr. P. A. Charles

Evangelical work was done in an interior village namely Vazhai Pandel. Several sick persons and those daunted with evil spirits came forward for prayers. The prayers were heard by our Lord. Open air preachings and cottage prayer meetings were held. Prayer meetings were held in nine houses and 88 persons were contacted personally and they were told the Gospel.

Veerapanoor : Mrs. & Mr. Robert John

Convert Banu Thai is suffering from severe chest pain. Pray for her. His other prayer requests are—for Periya Paiyan, Moopan, father of one Saminathan, daughter of one Saminathan, who are seffering from various ailments.

Hittanahalli : Mrs. & Mr. Prabudas :

They have reported that they visited the following villages: Hittanahalli, Uttnal, Hegudilal Jumanal, Tabija & Aliyabad. They have requested prayer for several people whom they have contacted individually and for Mr. Yungappa, Mullappa & Mrs. Chandrapa who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Personal Saviour. Your prayers are requested for these people and for the 13 seekers. In two villages the people have refused to listen to the word of God. Please pray that the Lord may open their minds and hearts to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Malligachi : Mr. M. C. Ghosh

He has reported that he is regularly conducting the School and 20 to 25 children are regularly attending the school. He has also

informed that he has contacted a few people and distributed tracts. Evangelist is needed for Malligachi. Please pray that the Lord may give an evangelist to be appointed in this area.

Mallihabad : Mrs. & Mr. Mahesh Chandra

Mr. Mahesh has reported that he is not able to get a house in Malligachi or near to Malligachi because the Muslim friends are not permitting him to get any house in that area. Meanwhile, he was able to contact a number of people at Indira Nagar at Lucknow. He has also reported that 20 seekers are willing to witness Christ through Baptism and our prayers are requested for these seekers. He has particularly requested prayer for Riaz Ahimed, Zain Uddin Igbal Arshad, who are being contacted regularly Mr. Banwari Lal and Mr. Mohamed Karim have committed their lives to the Lord. Please pray for the protection of our evangelist as they move around the area and contact people with the love of Jesus.

Lukkimpurkheri : Mrs. & Mr. Sampath James and Mr. M. M. Skariachan

They have reported that they have visited a few villages during the month of June 1986 and have also informed of some incidents and a few are mentioned below.

In the village Bansadia while they were proclaiming the Good News a young man called Rangulam 33 years old listened to the Gospel message proclaimed by them and expressed as follows: "Who is this Jesus about whom you are preaching ? Is he still alive? Where does He live ? As you say will he forgive my sins ? Will I have eternal life ?" Then he said, "I was a convict and I was in prison for eight years, I have led a wretched life and only now I have heard about the God who could forgive my sins, and will He forgive ?" To this they have proclaimed a Good News and the way of Salvation and he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. Please pray for him, his wife and his son.

Another man called Lakpathi Prasad Varma also heard Gospel with much interest and he has purchased a Bible paying Rs. 15/- and he is reading it regularly. Pray that he may find Christ through the Bible.

In another village 16 people flatly said that they don't want to hear anything about Christ. In Vathirana Nagar they met a Doctor and they told about Jesus to him. At that time a young man came

to them and he told that Jesus does not belong to this Country and they don't want anybody who belongs to other countries as God. Please pray that the Lord may meet these people who are rejecting Jesus.

Please pray for the Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus whom they are contacting. Particularly they have asked for prayers for the following people who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour: Mr. Rangulam, Lakpathi Prasad and Dr. Subert.

Ludhiana: Miss Salina Rekha

She has reported that she has sold 500 gospels and distributed 3500 tracts in Hindi, Punjabi, Urudu and English. She has also sold New Testaments in Punjabi, Hindi, Urudu and English.

She has visited about 40 houses in the troubled state of Punjab. She has also visited patients in the hospital and listened to their painful cry. Let us pray for the protection of our Evangelist in the troubled state of Punjab where terrorists are very active.

Basai: Stanley Mohan, Moses, Dhayananthan & Jacob

They report that every Sunday they contact people in Babina market and the Blacksmith's families in Basai. They have also had a prayer meeting at Martha Tilla. They visited new villages called Buruliputra which is 10 K.M. away from Babina who are eager to listen to the gospel. They also visited Pichore which is about 30 K.M. from Babina where there is no evangelistic work. In this place also people are very much eager to know more about Jesus. They sold 17 gospel portions and 17 New Testaments. They have also distributed about 1000 tracts. Please pray for the school boys who come to their room regularly and ask about the love of Jesus. Special prayers are requested for one Mr. Ashok Kumar Misra who is a graduate and seeking for a job.

Mr. Babu H. Shering wants to lead a perfect Christian life. Please pray for Mr. K. P. Jacob who is our new evangelist in Basai and he may pick up the language and to face the cultural problem he may have to face in this new area.

Chakarpur: Rev. R. R. Vyas & J. Devanesan

While proclaiming the good News in Orcha the religious place for Hindus. A Sadhu from Hathras (A place in U.P.) who has come

from pilgrimage was listening to the Gospel. He was very much impressed and he wanted to know more about Jesus and our testimony was shared with him and he accepted Jesus Christ and he has invited us to his place.

One Mr. Gupta who noticed the Sadhu talking to them scolded and blamed the Sadhu for meeting the evangelists. Please pray for the Sadhu who has accepted Jesus Christ and the young man who scolded him.

They also visited Jenuli and Rasoi where the people listened to the word of God with eagerness particularly people from Hinduism. Let us pray for every one who is interested in knowing more about Jesus.

Puri, Orissa, Pentacotta, Nolayasahi : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mrs. Mariamma, Mr. R. V. Ramana, Mrs. R. V. Lakshmi & Mr. & Mrs. Daud Sagar.

Mr. Daud Sagar reports that he had an opportunity in sharing the Gospel in the hostel where there were 25 young people and they were all listening with much interest but one among them stood up and asked him to stop preaching and after scolding him he left the place. He has asked to pray for him and for the people who are listening to the Gospel.

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi : The cottage prayer meeting and the out reach work are as usual. N.M.S. Primary School both at Nolayasahi and Pentacottah are instruments in proclaiming the Gospel through the children.

Mrs. Krippamma who was the leader of the women folk in Pentacottah died. The family needs your prayers. But above all the women folk in that area had always looked for the leadership to Mrs. Krippamma. She was a woman of prayer and she has done yeoman service in contacting people for Christ in that area. She was one of the converts from the first group and believers who were baptised by Rev. K. G. S. Dorairaj, Ex. General Secretary in the midst of opposition. Let us thank God for the life and witness and also pray for the women in Pentacottah area may be strengthened in their fields in Lord Jesus Christ though they have lost their leader.

There is another problem which the people in Pentacottah are facing, that the Government has repeatedly tried to evict the settlers from that area and they need your prayers.

Sikkim: Mr. V. T. Abraham & Mrs. Alleyamma Abraham,
Mr. Daniel Bal & Mrs. Beena Bal,
Mr. Ademmu Lepcha and Nammal Mit Lepcha.

Mr. Lepcha has written that he has contacted a Brahmin family and others in and around his place. A family of eight members are regularly attending the prayer meeting. A few others who have accepted the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour are prevented by their family members in attending the prayer meeting and they need our prayers. These people are particularly from Mulluke area which is a bit far from Remock. Please continue to pray for the work in Sikkim and for the safety of the missionaries because the Gurkhas agitation is on.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Krippamma of Puri had her Home Call on 5-7-1986. She has left behind her husband, three sons and their families. This family is a witness in the place where they are. May the Lord console and comfort the members of the bereaved family. We praise God for the life of Mrs. Kiruppamma.

Please take note of:

1. Quite a few Birthday greeting cards and National Missionary Intelligencers are being returned stating "No such addressee or left or address not known". Please help us by informing us soon as the addresses are changed. We shall appreciate the information from you.

2. Please demand a receipt from the head quarters if you have not received the receipt for the money which you have sent to the head quarters. It is found that a few letters are lost in transit from one place to another. Please make it sure your communications reach the destination.

3. The N.M.S. Sunday will be on the 12th October '86. Members of the N.M.S. are requested to contact the local Presbyters and Institutional heads and request them to observe the N.M.S. Sunday. You may also request the church committees to take a retiring offertory or a special offertory for the NMS work.

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4. Last year we were able to give Winter Clothing allowance to some of the evangelists in North India and this year we plan to give it to a few others. You are kindly requested to send your donations to the Hon. Treasurer, N.M.S. of India, 206, Peters Road, Madras-600 0'4, for this purpose.

5. Your contributions may be sent as Mail Transfers to the N.M.S. Account No. 999 at the Clock Tower branch of the Indian Bank, Madras-14. and intimate us.

6. Next issue of the NMI will be a Special issue of the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building.

Wanted

ORGANISING SECRETARIES ARE NEEDED

for

U. P. and Bihar
Andhra Pradesh
North East India
Madras City

RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE to visit the Churches and Christian Institutions in their areas to inspire the Christians about the need of Proclaiming the good news and to raise Funds for the Society.

If ordained by the Church, and working under the Church or any organisations the applications need to be sent through the authorities to the following address.

General Secretary,
NMS of India,
206, Peters Road,
Royapettah,
Madras-600 014.

Applicants should be graduate with Theological Training.

Should have the Personal experience in Christ Jesus.

Should have the evangelistic fervour.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

PLATINUM JUBILEE MEMORIAL BUILDING

JAN 15 1987
Property of
Graduate Theological Union

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras 600 014. Phone : 87314

The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 79 | 80 | JULY 1986 | No. 7

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

N.M.S. Prayer week from
5th to 12th October 1986

N.M.S. Sunday on 12th October 1986

Please observe the N.M.S. Sunday to Pray for the work and to contribute for the work.

MEDITATION

PETER FOR AND AGAINST JESUS

John 6:66-69 Matt. 16:21-27

Jesus had a following along with His chosen disciples. There a group of 12, who were with Jesus were selected and called to be with Him. But another set of disciples, both men and women followed Him apart from the great multitude that gathered around Him. People followed Jesus with different motives. Some wanted easy life, and they thought if they follow Jesus they will lack nothing. Another section followed Him, for physical healing, perhaps a larger number. Even in our times we find people going to the meetings where sick are prayed and demons are cast out.

In chapter 6 of St. John, we find Jesus feeding a multitude of 5000 and more with 5 loaves and 2 fish. This had attracted so many people to Him. To them He explained about Himself. (Please read the entire chapter). The group which followed Jesus had both the believers and unbelievers. But we find even among the believers many withdrew from Him, because they found it difficult to follow Him.

"After this many of his disciples drew back and no longer went about him" (John 6:66). It is stated "many of His disciples drew back." People have followed Jesus without realizing the cost. Anyone who wants to follow Him has to pay the cost. Sadhu Sunder Singh, the apostle of India had to pay the cost in giving up the comforts, family, wealth and everything and became a Christian Sadhu. He was prepared to empty himself like his master Jesus Christ. Those who did not want to pay the cost went back from Jesus. Are we prepared to pay the cost?

"Having seen the disciples leaving Him, Jesus came out openly to the 12 and asked them "will you also go away?" Jesus found Him rather alone, because the disciples have found it difficult to follow Jesus. Having followed Jesus they could hot have their own ways. All those who wanted to have their own ways left Jesus.

"When Peter heard this question of Jesus, "Will you also go away, he answered in Vs. 68 "Lord where shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Peter had found something more important in Jesus than the world could offer him. He had found the eternal life and eternal words in Jesus Christ. He could find something which cannot be destroyed by the world. He could find

real satisfaction in Christ Jesus. Have we found eternal life and satisfaction in Christ ?

In the above passage we find Peter for Jesus and making a statement to follow Christ alone. Yet the same Peter talks against Jesus and His plan. Matt. 16:21-27 where we find Peter standing against Jesus.

Jesus never hid His plan from His chosen disciples. He tried to reveal Himself to them. His coming to this world was to die for the world which no body liked, including the devil. (Refer Matt. Chapter 4) He wanted to distract the plan of Jesus. Now Peter being used by the devil to destroy the plan of salvation. Salvation from sin could be possible through shedding of blood. In Leviticus we find how the sacrifices should be offered, particularly for the sins.

Peter, boldly wanted to express his feelings took Jesus aside and began to rebuke "God forbid, Lord ! This shall never happen to you". (Vs. 22). Peter was dare enough to rebuke his master. He did not fail to call Him "Lord," and yet was prepared to rebuke the master. We should note the courage of Peter even to face his master.

Here he stands against the plan of Salvation. He became a tool in the hands of the cunning devil. There was a good desire in the heart of Peter, that he did not want to see his master suffer and die, but wanted Him to be the king in Jerusalem sitting on the throne of David. Peter was not able to understand Jesus and His plans for the redemption.

Jesus reacted very sharply to Peter in saying "Get behind me Satan ! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men" (Vs. 23). He called him as "Satan", because Peter was telling Jesus about the plan of Satan. In Mathew Chapter 4, he met Jesus directly and He tried to use Peter who was very bold in talking for Jesus.

This is a warning to any follower of Jesus who has the fervour for Jesus. Let us not be used in any way by the devil. We go astray from His plan, by seeking material benefits, by seeking positions by establishing institutions and what not. Finally we drift away from Him.

Any one who is for Jesus has to

deny himself
take up His cross (Not the cross of Christ but his own)
and follow Him.
he has to lose his life
for His sake
he will find it
to him He will repay (vs. 25-27)

Are we for Him or against Him ?
Preacher, are you for Him or against Him ?
Theologian, are you for Him or against Him ?
Pastor, are you for Him or against Him ?
Evangelist, are you for Him or against Him ?
Laymen in different walks of life, are you for Him or against Him?
Christians, are you for Him or against Him ?

J. M. JAYASINGH

(To be continued)

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

This issue of the NMI is specially meant to inform the readers about the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building which was constructed in the NMS campus and dedicated on 26th April 1986. As you find in the report of the Hon. Treasurer and the Convener of the Building Committee, it was planned in the year 1955 to construct a building as the Golden Jubilee building commemorating the Golden Jubilee of the National Missionary Society of India. But unfortunately it did not work out and finally it has become the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building. The word "Memorial" is added because we decided to raise money in memory of our beloved people who had gone beyond the veil. Many friends came forward to offer their donations in memory of their beloved ones. At the same time

many people have given contributions in their own name. It is also meant to remember the past 75 years of the society. So we have built this Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building at a strategic place in Madras.

God made it possible for us to construct this building and we praise Him. We also request you to join us in praising God.

We also invite you to participate in this programme because we have yet to pay about Rs. 1.5 lakhs to the contractor.

We have already given the building to two parties, the ground floor to the Rallis India Ltd. for their showroom and the first floor to the United India Insurance Co. for their office.

Please pray that the Lord's name may be glorified and honoured through all our efforts.

In this issue of the NMI you may not find any field report of our work. But I would like to request you to praise and pray for the following :

1) Four of our evangelists are blessed with children. Their wives had safe confinement.

2) Several new converts were baptised from the tribals where we work in Andhra Pradesh.

3) Mr. Peter Vellayan, one of the new converts in Allery, Jawadhi hills who was working as the Branch postmaster accidently fell down from a tree and died on the way to hospital and he has left behind his mother, wife and two small children. Pray that Mrs. Peter Vellayan may stand firm in her faith.

4) It was reported that Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel who are working in and around Silpahari are ill and admitted in the hospital.

5) Several new evangelists are appointed in different centres. They will have to face cultural and language problems. Please pray that the Lord may strengthen them to adjust themselves to the new situations.

6) All of us need to pray for our country about which I have reminded you repeatedly.

May the spirit of God help us to do our best in praying for the work and involving ourselves in the task of evangelism.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

DEDICATION SERVICE

The N.M.S. Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building, in the NMS head quarters campus, situated just opposite to the Govt. Hospital at Royapettah, right at the signal point, was dedicated and opened at 5-00 P. M. on 26th April 1986, by the Society's President, the Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews and Vice President Rt. Rev. J. Ponniah respectively.

The function started with the Hymn "Oh God our help in age past" and the opening service was conducted by the Presid himself in which the Rev. C. I. George of the Mar Thoma C guided the gathering in the Litany. After that the Preside Rev. I. P. Andrews dedicated the building to the glory of G the Vice President Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah opened the buildi entire gathering had a procession around the building before the first floor for the function.

At the function Miss. Sharon Deepa Fredrick read the portion. Mr. Nulraj Joseph welcomed the gathering and the Felicitations were offered by the following persons :—

Mr. B. Ratnasamy, President Madurai City Area Commit

The Rev. George Karunakaran, Secretary Madras D Council.

Mr. Ebenezer Sundararaj, Asso. Secretary, India Mission As

Rev. C. I. George, Vicar Mar Thomas Church, Chetput,

Mr. Joseph Asirvadam—Vellore

Mr. Paul Kumaresan—Lutheran church

Rev. Dr. Joseph Baynes—President, Baptist Churches, M

Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah, Bishop, Vellore Diocese.

Mr. K. K. Dewan, Regional Sales Manager of Rallis Ind

Mr. V. G. Williams spoke a few words, presenting a report about the work of the National Missionary Society, the Treasurer and the Convener of the Building Committee presente report about the building.

The Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews spoke from the word of God cl lenging the people to involve themselves in the work of t Society.

Mr. J. S. Rajasingh, the Architect and Mr. A. Lakshmanan the contractor were adorned with Ponnadai by the President.

The Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, General Secretary of the Society thanked everyone present at the occasion and those who have helped in the construction work.

Our God Almighty has enabled us to construct this building and dedicate it on 26th April 1986. Let us all praise Him.

Praise God for everyone who prayed
Praise God for everyone who contributed
Praise God for everyone who laboured.

J. M. JAYASINGH.

The P. J. M. Building Committee members.

Rev. J. M. Jayasingh
Mr. J. S. Rajasingh—Architect
Mr. Nulraj Joseph
Mr. D. I. Paul
Mr. V. G. Williams
Mr. M. D. Selvaraj—Convener Building Committee.

ge from the President of the N.M.S of India

praise God that in His Providence, He has made it possible National Missionary Society to have the Platinum Jubilee al Building at its Headquarters premises.

s our prayer that this building will embody the prayers, faith irations of the Christians in India, and the Churches in India. Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building at the headquarters to all Christians and let it be a home for missionary vision challenge and a power-house to motivate the churches for the gelistic and missionary task. May God bless the occasion at the of its dedication.

Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews,
President,
National Missionary Society of India and the Bishop of the Kolhapur Disease C.N.I.

Message from the Moderator of the Church of South India

I am extremely happy to note that you are planning to bring out a Souvenir in connection with the dedication service of the Platinum Jubilee Memorial building on 26th April 1986.

It is an occasion to thank God for His manifold blessings showered upon the work of NMS for the past 80 years. We remember with gratitude all those who have laboured so sincerely and efficiently for the extention of the work of NMS to different parts of India. It is gratifying to note that the income generated from the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building will be used for enhancement of salary of the evangelists and appointment of more workers to take the gospel of Christ to unreached areas.

We send our warmest greetings and best wishes on this occasion. May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless the work of NMS in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,
Most Rev. I. Jesudasan,
Moderator/Bishop

Message from Vice President N.M.S. and the Bishop of the Kottayam- Ranni Diocese of the MARTHOMA CHURCH

I am very happy to learn that the P.J.M. Building will be dedicated on 26th April by the President. Thank God for His boundless grace and mercy. I congratulate you for your untiring efforts. May God make the occasion a blessed one. I regret I can't be there in person but please be assured of my prayers and support.

With regards,

Yours in Christ's service,
Zacharias Mar Theophilus.

N.B. Many others have sent the felici ations through telegrams and, thanks to each one of them.

FROM THE RECORDS

The founders of the N.M.S.I. decided to have the Headquarters of the Society in Madras because there are more Christians in the South.

The Society's office functioned in Vepery for sometime. The land for the present headquarters was donated by the Canon Gold Smith, the Veteran Missionary, who laboured in Madras among the Muslims along with the building which was used as converts' home.

The foundation stone was laid for the Headquarters office building "on March 6th 1913, by Countess of Meath".

The converts' home was made as the N.M.S. Press building. It was Mr. K. T. Paul the then General Secretary, who donated his press to N.M.S. The N.M.S. had to sell the press as it could not manage the affairs of the press.

The same building was renovated a little and given to a businessman to have his business for a period of 3 years. At the end of the third year, the tenant refused to vacate the building. A court case was filed and the Society won the case. To get the party evicted the then General Secretary Rev. K.G.S. Dorairaj had to suffer a lot in going to the court repeatedly.

Since the party had removed all fittings including the roof a case was filed in the Court. This case was pending even during 1980 when the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations were held.

The Society wanted to build the Golden Jubilee Building in the year 1955 at the site and it did not materialise. During the Triennial Council at Vellore in 1977, the Council discussed about the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. It was at the Council the P. J. M. Building affair came up.

The Kerala friends wanted to have Platinum Jubilee Memorial centres and by the effort of Mr. K. Chandy the Organising Secretary and the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Committee, Kerala raised Rs. 75,000/- and deposited with the Society. (The Mallihabad work is supported by the interest from this fund).

The friends in Madras already got involved themselves in raising the funds for the workers' Relief Endowment Fund, (Please refer to the report of the Convenor).

Though the plan was submitted for approval to the M.M.D.A. as early as in 1982, it was approved only in 1984 and immediately the construction work was started on 24th August 1984.

The architect Mr. J. S. Rajasingh of the Kingsway Consulting Engineers was the one who made the plan. Under his advice, the building committee, which was appointed by the Executive Committee approved the plan and the work was given to Mr. A. Lakshmanan, Contractor. Mr. A. E. Santhappan, Mr. Selvaraj and Mr. Prakash Daniel, the Engineers of the Kingsway Consulting Engineers were of great help in the construction work.

The Workers Relief Endowment Fund which was raised under the leadership of late Mr. G. Solomon was raised in memory of the people, who had gone beyond the veil. So the efforts in raising the fund was continued. (Details may be found in the report of the Convener).

Friends and Hon. members of the N.M.S. took interest and raised funds. A few of the N.M.S Missionaries pledged to pay Rs. 1,000/- each and three of them have completed the amount and others are contributing every month. All the Organising Secretaries of the Society tried to raise funds for the Society. Among them Mr. J. P. Ashwal and Mr. David Suresh have done their best to raise funds for this project.

But above all, the efforts in raising funds, a number of people regularly looked upon to the Lord for funds and He honoured their faith. Every time when we were in need of funds, the Lord supplied the needed funds.

By God's grace we are able to see this building as P. J. M. Building. Praise to His Holy Name.

J. M. JAYASINGH,

General Secretary.

Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building
A Report

I praise God the Almighty for enabling us to complete the construction of the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building. On behalf of the Society I thank everyone who has prayed and contributed for the construction.

Foundations

Way back in 1955 the members of the Executive Committee and the Council of the National Missionary Society of India planned to have a permanent structure in the Society Headquarters campus at Madras and to name it as the Golden Jubilee Building. Unfortunately the plan did not materialise.

During the Trienniel Council meeting at Vellore in 1977, a decision was taken to plan ways and means to increase the income of the Society by which the salary of the Evangelists and employees of the Society who were poorly paid, could be enhanced. The Madras City Area Committee was seized of this problem. On 8th August 1978 at 10-00 a.m. a group of four members met in the upper room of late Mr. G. Solomon the N.M.S. Uncle, at Ritherdon Road, Vepery, Madras. The group included Mr. M. D. Selvaraj, the then President of the Madras City Area Committee, Mr. V. G. Williams, the then Secretary of the Madras City Area Committee, and the late Mr. J. F. Arumainayagam, the then Hon. Asso. General Secretary of the Society. The N.M.S. Uncle presided over the meeting. The group discussed the various suggestions offered to raise funds for enhancing the emoulments of the N.M.S. employees. It was decided that an appeal should be made initially to the Christian Public of Madras City for a contribution of Rs. 1000/- in memory of their dear ones. It was also decided to name this collection as W. R. E. F. (Workers' Relief Endowment Fund) and to place this fund in fixed deposit. The interest earned shall be used for the enhancement of the salary of the employees of the Society. Under the guidance of the N.M.S. Uncle, the group knelt in prayer, seeking God's guidance. The four members agreed to contribute Rs. 1000/- each. immediately afterwards, the group met some Christians residing in Ritherdon Road, and five families readily agreed to contribute Rs. 1000/- each In course of time many friends and well wishers of the Society have. come forward to contribute to this fund.

The Platinum Jubilee of the Society was celebrated along with Trienniel council at Tiruvella, Kerala in 1980. The earlier decision

of the Council to construct a building at this site was revived. A Platinum Memorial Building was proposed to be constructed with the Workers Relief Endowment Fund and other deposit funds.

The Building

A building with four floors was planned. For the present, it was decided to construct only two floors.

The plinth area of the ground floor is 2,716 sq. ft. and of the first floor, 2,990 sq. ft. The carpet area for the ground floor is 2,238 sq. ft. and for the first floor 2,400 sq. ft.

The foundation stone was laid by the President of the National Missionary Society of India, the Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews, Bishop of Kolhapur, under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Sundar Clarke, Bishop of the Madras Diocese on 30th January 1982.

The turning of the first soil was done on 25th August 1984 by Mr. Saeed Rallia Ram, Executive Director of the World Vision of India, under the Chairmanship of Rev. R. T. Baskaran, the then Vice-President of the Madras Diocese. The work was entrusted to M/s Kingsway Consulting Engineers.

Finance

The cost of construction has come to Rs. 10.60 lakhs. We have paid bills upto Rs. 8.90 lakhs from out of the collections made towards the construction and from the fixed deposits we had in various ear-marked funds. We need a sum of Rs. 1.70 lakhs for settling the construction account.

The Society is getting a rent of Rs. 19,500/- per month. Three months rent will be spent towards the Corporation Tax and maintenance of the building. We will repay the fixed deposits amount used for the construction of the building. We will be able to enhance the salary of the workers and to appoint more missionaries to reach the unreached.

Many friends and wellwishers of the Society have contributed towards the building Fund.

Amount	No. of Friends
Rs. 5000/- & above	... 13
Rs. 4000/- ,,	... 5
Rs. 3000/- ,,	... 3
Rs. 2000/- ,,	... 12
Rs. 1000/- ,,	... 127

It is proposed to inscribe the names of the Donors under 4 categories :

1. Friends who have contributed Rs. 5,000/- and more in loving memory of :

2. Donors who have contributed Rs. 5,000/- and more.

3. Friends who have contributed Rs. 1,000/- and more in loving memory of :

4. Donors who have contributed Rs. 1,000/- and more.

The names of the first two categories will be inscribed in a Marble plaque of 5" × 3" size with deep grooves engraved around the name.

The 3rd, 4th categories will have two separate marble plaques of 3.6" × 6.0" and the names engraved will be in alphabetical order.

The Society has decided that only the names of those who are with Lord (Deceased) shall be inscribed in the categories No. 1 and 3.

I once again thank all the friends who contributed liberally towards this worthy cause. May I take the liberty of appealing to National Missionary Society of India's friends and well wishers to contribute further to bridge the deficit towards the construction of the Platinum Jubliee Memorial Building to the Glory of God.

EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD

AND

ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD

M. D. SELVARAJ
Hony. Treasurer & Convener Bldg. Committee.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

1. Opening Service.
2. Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews, Bishop in Kolhapur & President of N.M.S.I.
   Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah, Bishop in Vellore & Vice President, N.M.S.I.
3. Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah, Opening the building.
   Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews, Dedicating the building.
4. Honouring the Architect—Mr. J. S. Rajasingh with Ponnadai.
5. Honouring the contractor Mr. A. Lakshmanan with Ponnadai.
6. Mr. Joseph Asirvadam of Vellore, Presenting Rs. 2000/-
7. Miss Baynes presenting Rs. 700/-
8. Mr. Nulraj Joseph Speaking
9. Section of audience.

Regd. No. M. 609
Licence No. 23 Licenced to post without pre-payment

The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014

We invite you to participate in our Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building Project. This construction is taken up under the auspices of its [illegible] year of the organisation.

The [illegible] two fold aims.

1. To recruit additional missionaries for reaching India for Christ.
2. In order to revise the present salary structure of its missionaries

---

(Well wishers may use this form for sending their Donation to the P. J. M. Building Project)

The National Missionary Society of India

206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.

To share in the ongoing ministry of NMS, in bringing the land of India to Christ's fold, I hereby agree and promise to pay towards N M S Platinum Jubilee Memorial Building Project a sum of Rupees.....

payable in full/5/10 instalments.

Name.....

Church.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Amount Promised Rs.....

Amount paid as 1st Instalment Rs.....

Date: Signature

The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 79 No. August—September 1986 | No. 8 & 9

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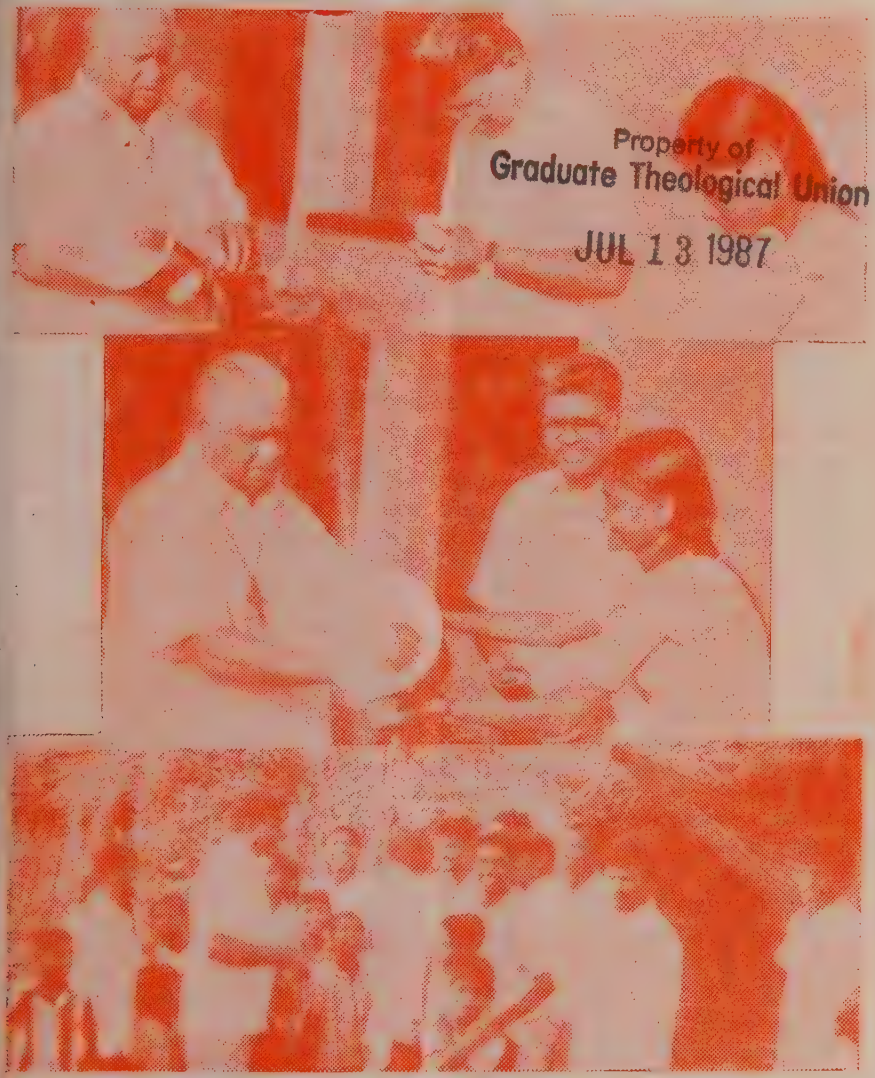
JUL 13 1987



Top: The Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews dedicating the Megaphone presented by a member of the Good Shepherd Church, Mylapore.

Middle: Bishop presenting the megaphone to Miss Vasantha Kumari David.

Bottom: Rev. Dravyam of Good Shepherd Church with the young converts in Sangha, Kagal, Maharashtra.

The National Missionary Society of India
206 Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

PETER IN THE GOSPELS *(contd,)*

WASHING OF FEET

Peter and Christ at the last supper : John 13:4-10

We find Peter was not steady in his stand for Christ. He was very hasty in his statements for Christ and at times against. In Mathew 16:21-27 we find him standing against the planned salvation of God. But Jesus never wanted to lose Peter or anyone. He loved them and cared for them.

His love for the world was expressed in different forms, particularly in John 13.4 to 10 we find something contrary to the human mind.

All the other Gospel writers write only about the last supper. but not about washing the feet Only John writes this, so that the readers may understand the servant-hood of the Master It is not only for the readers but for all those who wanted to follow Him. This is something contrary to the ones who expect to be served— "The Son of God came to this world not to be served but to serve."

A Planned Supper:

The last supper with Jesus was very well planned. The disciples were asked to prepare it at a particular place. Lk. 22:7-19, Mk, 14:12-16, Mt 26 14-20 (All the above passages explain to us how everything was planned, prepared and participated) Jesus did nothing without proper planning. His ministry was very well planned according to the will of the Father. Even this supper which He wanted to have with His disciples also was well thought about. planned and prepared, so Jesus could participate in it with His beloved disciples.

Washing of feet:

It was at the table, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples It was the custom to wash the feet before entering into a house. But here the washing of the feet takes inside the house and that too at the table. We read in verse 4 that.

Jesus rose up from the supper
laid aside his garments
took a towel
girded himself

poured water in the basin
began to wash the disciples' feet
and wipe them.

Serving is costly and painful. To serve another, a man has to empty himself and to do it without counting the cost. Here a leader, a master, a teacher and above all the Son of God was ready to wash the feet of His disciples, who are selected and chosen to be with Him. The Lord and Master of the Missions, the Saviour of the world was trying to train His followers,

Peter confronting Jesus:

When Jesus began to wash and wipe the feet of His disciples, Peter prepared himself to confront Jesus. In washing the feet of the disciples Jesus was confronting the proud, arrogant and position-seeking disciples. Jesus' ways are not of the world. Today the Church, Christian Organisations and Christians want to confront the world in the way of the world. But we need to confront the world in the way of the Master. Peter was very quick in confronting His Master and saying to Him "No". He could not tolerate Jesus doing it and he blocked it; He did not like the way of His Master. He seems to be questioning the action of Jesus.

Counter confronting:

Knowing Peter very well, particularly his attitude in trying to prevail over the mind of Jesus, Jesus told him straight, "If I do not wash you, you have no part in me" (vs. 8b). In another way Jesus told him 'Shut up and keep quiet and allow me to work in you'. When God wants to have certain plans in our lives we say to Him 'Lord, No'. It is not in that way, but it should be this way. While He confronts us, He expects us to surrender totally to His plan. How much human power prevails in our lives, families, churches and christian organisations; Do we allow Him to have His way in the work of Him of ours? If so, He says to us "You shut up and keep quiet and allow me to have my work in you".

Peter yielded:

In Peter we find a sudden response to the confronting Christ and told Him "Lord not my feet only but also my hands and my head". (Vs. 9). What a wonderful submission! He expressed the need of total cleansing. In expressing his needs, he realises nobody can cleanse him fully except Jesus. In Psalm 24:3-4, the Psalmist expresses himself and says only those whose hands and hearts are clean can stand before the Lord. Peter yielded himself to the plan of Jesus and allowed Him to have His way in his life.

Jesus remark in confronting Peter :

When Peter blocked, Jesus did not limit his saying only, that "If I do not wash you, you have no part in me," but He also made a strong remark to him saying "What I am doing you do not know now; but afterward you will understand" (Vs. 7). Jesus cautioned him by saying. "You do not know now, but you will know it later". When Christ confronts us with His plans in our lives, it pains us because it is costly. Sometimes it is unbearable and we groan within us and put forth questions such as :

Why this has happend to me ?
Why He took away my dear ones ?
Why this financial crisis ?
Why I lost the job ?
Why am I not getting a job ?
Why my children are not employed ?
Why I am not having all those facilities others have ?
Why the Committee took such a decision about me ?
We go on putting forth all the whys ?

He says to us "What I am doing, you do not know now. but afterwards you will understand." Will you yield yourself to His plan, so that His perfect will and plan may be fulfilled in your lives "Lord, Here I am, have your way in my life."

A young teenager decided to go for ministry and he was trained in such a way, both at home and in the church. When he completed his school final, he applied in his diocese and he was not chosen as nobody followed up the matter. The young teenager became bitter in his mind about the persons who dealt with the matter. But he was determined to go for the ministry. The Lord spoke to him, saying "You do not know now, but you will learn it, later on." That young man realised that was not the church official who had done it, but His master Jesus Christ who had done it. Only after 15 years he realised and acknowledged the Lord's plan in his life.

Will you yield yourself to His plan, so that His perfect will and plan may be fulfilled in your life. "Lord here I am. Have your own way in my life." Amen.

(To be continued)

J. M. JAYASINGH,

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Although this is the month of October we are just publishing the August issue of the N.M.I. Due to heavy work it was not possible to publish the N.M.I, in time. Kindly bear with us.

Madras Annual Sale :

The Annual Sale conducted by the Madras City Area Committee was held on 15th August 1986 at the Ewart Matriculation Higher Secondary School in Madras. Mr. James Fredrick the Chairman, Coromandel Indag and Mrs. Minnie Fredrick, Director, Coromandel Indag, were the chief guests.

There were nearly 50 stalls which were put up from the churches and the N.M.S. members and it has raised Rs. 76,000/- so far and few donation books have yet to come and we expect at least another Rs. 25,000/- in connection with the Annual Sale.

There were many new faces who came to participate at the Annual Sale. A few old friends who contributed much to the Society through their own contributions and through collections came to attend the Sale. One of them was Dr. Mrs. Thambiah, although she cannot see and can walk only with the help of others, was present and participated at the Sale enthusiastically. She did the collection work for the Sale at the sick bed.

On behalf of the Society I thank leaders of the Area Committee and everyone who participated in the Annual Sale and helped us to raise mo re funds fo the Society.

The Annual Sale can be held in every town in India for N.M.S. of India.

Visit to different Area Committees :

At the latter part of August 1986 I was able to visit Pune and Kolhapur. At Pune the Area Committee friends had arranged meetings for me to speak. In one public meeting the President Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews spoke about the N.M.S. and invited the people to support the work of the N.M.S. as it is the national and indigenous and Interdenominational Missionary Organisation. People who attended the meeting were from different churches. On Sunday the 24th August 1986 I had the privilege of preaching in three churches. On 28th August 1986 a meeting was called at the Bishop's house in Kolhapur. Sixteen people from different denominations participated and

the Area Committee in Kolhapur was revived.

An one day retreat was organised by Mr. David Suresh, the Organising Secretary at the C.S.I. Church, Katpadi. Thanks to Rev. Mahimai Rufus for making all the arrangements.

Mid Tamil Area was covered along with Mr. D. W. Herbert, Mr. Edwin Jeyaraj and Mr. Thangaraj Mathuram visiting Cuddalore, Chidambaram, Kumbakonam, Tanjore, Trichy and Karur. In Karur we were able to speak about the N.M.S. to the C.S.I. Church workers in that area. The Rev. Josephus Jeyaraj was kind enough to give us sufficient time.

As we toured around it was noted that late Mr. Solomon Rajiah has done a good piece of work along with Mr. D. W. Herbert and Rev. George Gnanamuthu.

The presbyters in all the above places deserve our thanks.

New Appointments :

Two new evangelists have been recruited and appointed at Thongumalai and Kattiankudisai. They are Mr. Francis Barnadsha and Mr. Vijayan.

Five others were interviewe in North India and among them four are recommended for appointment which will be done n the coming month. As we are appointing more evangelists the Society needs more support. We request you to contact new friends to help the Society.

Christmas Cheers :

As we celebrate Christmas we plan to give gifts to different people particularly to our own family members and to our relatives. And we are also interested in giving gifts to the evangelists and our pastors. As N.M.S. we had been raising gifts for the N.M.S. workers from well wishers and members of the N.M.S. and divide equally and send to our evangelists in different fields. We are thankful to you for your contribution during the last year. We shall very much appreciate if you would kindly send your donations or gifts to the Hon. Treasurer, National Missionary Society of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600014 marked as Christmas Cheers.

Independence :

On August 15th we have celebrated the Independence Day of our Country thanking God for the Freedom which we enjoy in this land of ours. Even though we have won freedom from the Foreign Rulers we do not truly enjoy the freedom because we find terrorism, regionalism and communalism have taken place and they are trying to rule over us. There is no safety anywhere because our people are under the bondage of the above evils.

Let us pray that the spirit of God may move in a special way so that our people will have real freedom from the forces of evil.

We also need to pray for the safety of our own National leaders, who head State and Central Governments in our country.

May the spirit of God enable us to pray and support the work of the Society.

May His blessings be with you all.

With best wishes and prayers.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

Coimbatore N.M S. Sale

The N.M.S. Sale in Coimbatore will be held at 3 p.m. on 16th November 1986 at the C.S.I. Christ Church, Trichy Road, Coimbatore. All Christians in Coimbatore are requested to pray and participate in the Sale.

Situation Vacant

Wanted Principal for Alexandera Girls High School, Church of North India, Amritsar, Age 45/50 minimum with experience of fifteen years in English medium High/ Higher Secondary School. Qualification M.A.B.Ed. Salary depending upon qualification and experience. Accommodation free. Only members of the Church of North India or Churches in Communion with it need apply before 31st October 1986 to Bishop Anand Chandu Lal, Diocesan Community Conference Centre, Rai Bahadur Parkash Chand Road Amritsar 143 001.

FIELD REPORT

JAWADHI HILLS:

Kandili Karagapatti : Mrs. & Rev. A. Thiraviam

They report that they visited several villages and distributed tracts to those who evinced keen interest in reading them. One youngster by name Senthil in Kandili hospital was suffering from several diseases. The boy's grand-mother requested the evangelists to pray for the boy. The fervant prayers of the evangelists were heard by our Lord and that evening itself the cure came. The other patients in the hospital witnessed this miracle. Dr. Kanagaraj was laid up with severe pain in his throat and stomach. Even treatments by a M.B.B.S. doctor did not show any improvement. The evangelists preached the gospel and prayed for him. The Lord healed the patient. Two teachers from the TELC School at Tirupathur namely. Mayanthi and Lathambal also joined the evangelists in their fasting prayers. Mrs. Saroja whose one hand was motionless attended the prayers. She is somewhat cured now. This has inspired her to join the evangelists in their weekly prayer days. Kindly remember the above in your prayers,

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudoss

He reports that he distributed more than 400 tracts and also gave three New Testaments and that the open-air preachings were fruitful. Mr. Govindan, the land owner Mr. M. Annamalai's son wants to accept Christ. But he is restrained by his kith and kin and also by the local people. Master Gobendran, Govindan and Miss Ranjini have expressed their willingness to accept Christ. Mr. John, a convert is willing to take up full ministry. Please pray for the above.

Pudurnadu : Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews

The converts renewed their contacts with many, and also preached the gospel for the first time to 48 persons. They report that Nachiamma and Ganesan of Arundapat, Lakshmanan of Chittoor village and Vedi of Mozhalali village want to know more about Jesus Christ and attend the Gospel meetings regularly. Some of the Christian members and believers assemble together every Sunday to worship our Lord. Some who opposed to this, induced the believers from attending this get-together to worship our Lord.

Alleri: Mrs. & Mr. P. A. Charles

They visited several interior villages and took the gospel message to several at their door-steps. Concentrated specially in Vazhapandal village which is about five miles away from Alleri and preached the Gospel. Many evinced interest in hearing the Gospel. During their preaching they also prayed specially for about 30 persons suffering from various diseases. Some who were healed have come closer to God. Pray that they accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour ere long.

Gundalathur: Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel

They cite the following incidents and want to pray for the individuals involved.

There was no peace in the family of Mr. Kankani Gounder and he and his wife were frequently quarrelling. He even went to the extent of thinking of a second marriage and for the purpose wanted the evangelist to see his horoscope. He was told that the reason for the problems in his family was due to the fact that Jesus was not in his family. Relevant portions from the Bible to suit the occasion were read out to him and he was told about the Love of God. On hearing, the person who is a chain smoker threw away the beedies from his pocket. Finally the evangelist prayed for the person and his wife. Now they are peaceful.

Chinnathai is an asthmatic patient. She is a secret believer. As the other members in the family are alcohol addicts and are prone to other sinful ways of life, there are obstacles in her accepting Jesus Christ.

Veerapanoor: Mrs. & Mr. Robert John

God has blessed the evangelists with their second son on 26th July '86. Both the mother and baby are doing well. Praise the Lord.

In spite of ill-health. Mr. Robert John was able to do the work of God. In some villages under the shadow of trees, day classes were conducted for little ones and they were told small stories and taught songs. Some with ailments who came to the evangelists for prayers especially the daughter of one Sakthi were cured of their diseases. The daughter of Mr. Pappoon of Veerapanur village is suffering from severe pain in her stomach. She is willing to accept Jesus Christ as her Saviour. We need to pray that she be firm in her faith.

Nadanur : Mr. S. A. Williams and Mr. Soundararajan.

Visited 14 villages and preached the Gospel to nearly 200 persons. Open-air meetings were held in Nadanur and Maryur villages. Those present even though bound by their old beliefs and customs heard the message with attention. Students were told about the Love of God by excerpts from the Bible and sweet songs to the glory of God.

Jamnamarathur : Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakkam

Gospel message was preached to nearly 250 persons. Mr. Murugesan who was almost ruining his life by excess drinking has freed himself from this bad habit after hearing the gospel.

The prayer requests of the evangelists are :

1) For the parents of Ponnusami and the families of his uncle who are gradually believing Christ. That they may accept Jesus Christ soon.

2) That the acts of Satan that stand in the way of Mr. Peter's wife, his children and his mother being baptised be thwarted.

3) That the parents of Miss Jaya, a student of Jawadhi Girls Hostel, who are stubborn that their daughter is not baptised have a change of heart.

4) For the family of M. Kannkam of Jamnamarathur who have never heard about Christ, now want to embrace Him after hearing the Gospel. So also, for the family of Mr. Ganapathy of Mamanathur.

5) For the family of Mr. Paramaratham of Vallikottayil village who have moved to a new house where the neighbours give them much trouble. That our Lord may protect them from all evils.

Hebri : Mr. Godfrey B. Soans

He reports that he visited Kurpady, Belerge, Krishna, and Santhekatte villages, and contacted several persons and preached the Gospel. People evinced keen interest in hearing the good news. One Sheenappa Shetty of Kurpady evinced keen interest in the gospel and requested the evangelist to visit his house. He was given some tracts and told about the love of God and the need to accept Jesus Christ, as the Saviour of mankind.

Lucknow : Mrs. & Mr. Mahesh Chandra;

His area of work is predominantly a Muslim one. In spite of several odds, he was able to visit many places and take the Gospel message to those who have not heard. Reports that Mr. Vinod and Mr, Zainul Haque experienced miraculous healing. In Musahib Ganj there are two sincere seekers for whom we need to pray that they accept Jesus Christ. His prayer requests are for God to provide a suitable accommodation to his family soon and for appointing another evangelist to the area so that God's work may be intensified;

Hitnahalli : Mrs. & Mr. Prabhudas;

Visited a new area Ittangikal, distributed tracts and conducted open air preaching which was attended to by about hundred persons. Arranged for Bible study in several places and these have yielded good results. Mr. Deva Gowda and his family members and Mr. Giridhar actively participated in these studies and had many of their doubts cleared. They are closer to Jesus Christ. Pray for them;

The evangelist has been provided with a brand new bicycle so that he can move from one place to another quickly and need not waste much of his precious time in waiting for the buses and avoid the difficulties in hiring cycles for travel. Pray that this evangelist may do his work hereafter with more vigour and enthusiasm to the Glory of God. Here a word of praise to Dr. George D. Bankapur for not only helping in purchasing the cycle but also making a personal contribution towards a portion of cost of the cycle.

Puri : Rev; Paul Sanjeevi;

He reports that he and his other co-workers are doing God's work in Pentacota and Nalayasahi happily. In the NMS Primary School there are about 150 students. Besides giving good teaching, the students are taught to tell Bible verses and sing beautiful small Christian songs. Certainly this will enable them to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour in their later lives. Cottage prayer is held almost daily and it is a matter for praise that some Hindu friends also associate themselves with these prayers. However, they are afraid to come out openly and accept Jesus Christ lest they face harassment by their kith and kin who are bound by the age-old customs. The following two were baptised on 24th August 1986 after they accepted Jesus Christ, as their personal Saviour.

1) Jaganathan became James &

2) Saraswathy became Aruna.

Pray that they may be steadfast in their faith in Christ to the last,

Kulathupuzha : Mr. Stephen Purushothaman.

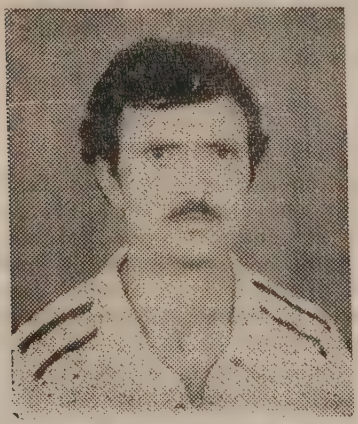
He wrote that he visited houses and prayed for the sick people. He also contacted an Astrologer named Arumugam and taught about Daniel from the Bible.

Kulathupuzha : Mr. Pappachan

He wrote that he visited a hospital at Koovakadu and prayed for the patients. He also visited houses, prayed for the sick and conducted Bible classes. At Koovakadu plantation one man named Muniappan 42 years old had one side paralysis. The evangelists prayed for him and the patient is improving. One Vijayan and his family are hearing the gospel and showing interest to come into the fold of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Vijayan's wife had a tumour in her head. We are praying for her. Please pray for the above people,

HOW I BECAME A CHRISTIAN

I am 27 years old and have completed my diploma course in Civil Engineering this year.



When I was still a child and was reading in 5th primary in my village school, I found a gospel of St. Mathew which I read. When I joined College in Srinagar I met some Christians who gave me some books on Christianity, that added to my knowledge. Afterwards I got a New Testament, and read it After reading all these books, particularly the new Testament, a confliet arose in my mind about Christianity over some words I could not understand. but by God's grace, I met a spiritual person named Tahir Masih who cleared all my misunderstandings and I believed completely in Jesus Christ.

I know that all have sinned and I am one among them and I know that Christ our Lord is our Saviour. Tahir Masih enlightened my heart with spiritual words. I became happy after believing in Jesus Christ, who died to take away our sins. After finding faith I began to hate sins and to love good deeds. Such was how I became a Christian,

Thanks and praises be to the Lord Jesus Christ who took me out from sin and brought me out of darkness into light.

I pray that all may confess their sins and accept Jesus as their Saviour so that they can all get eternal life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Bashir Ahmed,
President of Mamoosa. District Baramulla,
Kashmir.

MUNNAR AREA COMMITTEE

Following the retiral of Mr. T. John, Hon. Secretary, and resignation of Mr. A. Wilson, Hon. Treasurer, who left the district after service in Tata Tea Limited, it had become necessary for this area to form a new Committee. and the following members were elected:-

Chairman: Rev. P. Mathew, Marthoma Church, Munnar, Hon, Secretary. Mr. A. Doss, Head Clerk, Periavurrai Estate., Hon, Jt. Secretary Mr. G. R. Austin, Asst. Secretary. Hon, Treasurer Mr, R.A. Gilbert, Stores Officer,

Rev. Krish E. Mohandhas, CSI Munnar Pastorate Chairman, has been elected as Executive Member of Munnar Area Committee in place of Mr. A. Wilson who has taken up the work in the NMS as Personal Assistant to the Geneal Secretary. The Committee placed its record the yeomen service rendered to NMS for the past several years as Hon. Treasurer as well member in the NMS Executive. The committee also has appreciated the meritorious service rendered by Mr. T. John as Hon. Secretary of the Society.

May the blessings of the Lord be with this new Committee and the congregation,

Delhi Area Committee

Mr. B. Brown. Area Secretary of NMS, Delhi, writes as follows:-

The General body meeting was held on 10.9.1986 sufficiently by old and new members. With the routine and regular proceedings, the main item on Agenda was the general election of office bearers. The following members were elected:-

President : Rev. Samuel Sunder Singh; Vice Presidents: Rev. S.C.P; Thyagi and Mr. E. S Peter:, Area Secretary Mr. A. Brown, Joint Secretary : Mr. P. P. Masih, Treasurer : Mr. Daniel Yunas, Asst. Treasurer Mr. Sushil S. Paul , Executive Members—Mrs. A; W. Singh, Mrs. I. R. Singh, Rev. H. W. Sunray, Mr. B K. Singh, Mr, S. M. Lal, Mr. J. H, Bhajjan, Dr. Samson Silas, Mr. J. S. Rathore.

This new executive has enthusiastically come forward to carry on the work of the N M S more profitably and effectively in this area. We pray to God to help us and guide us in His work.

A. Brown, Area Secretary.

Indore Branch

The following members are the office-bearers newly elected of the Indore NMS Branch:-

President : Mr. V. John, Press Foreman, Central Jail; Secretary: Dr. K. P. Pothen, H. No. 2, Indore Christian College, Indore.; Treasurer: Mr. S. R. Chohan, Librarian, Indore Christian College.

May the Lord bless this Committee and congregation for their efforts and activities for His glory;

Church News : C.N.I. Syond

The C. N. I. Synod was held at the St. Stephens College in Delhi from 3 to 9th of October 1986.

The Rt. Rev. Din Dayal, who was the Deputy Moderator was elected to be the Moderator and the Rt. Rev, J. E. Ghose of Darjeeling as the deputy Moderator of the Church of North India. The NMS of India congratulates them and wish God's blessings on their additional assignments apart from their diocesan responsibilities. May God grant to guide them the Church of North India.

A fitting citation

NMS feels proud to offer its felicitations, to Mr. S. A. Aruldoss, the Hon. Branch Secretary at Katpadi, North Arcot District, for the honour he was conferred with.

He was rated and honoured as one of the best Teachers in North Arcot District by the Govt. of Tamilnadu, on 5th September 1986,

Presently he continues as Head Master in the Govt. Boys Highe Secondary School, Arni.

Our heartfelt congratulations, good wishes and prayers are always with him for his greater strides.

General Secretary.

Report on the Spiritual revival meeting, conducted by NMS in St. Stephens Church, Elayirampannai in Panyadaipatti Pastorate of Madurai C.S.I. Diocese.

Panaiyadipatti Pastorate is one of the prominant Missionary fields started by the Anglican missionaries about two hundred, years ago. In the seven churches affiliated to this Pastorate there is a great awakening for spiritual revival. In this context the meetings conducted by the NMS from 28-8-'86 to 31-8-1986, had great significance and were very successful in fulfilling the aims of the pastorate.

Prayer Call Cards were distributed well in advance and the church, families, prayer groups and individuals prayed for these meetings that they witness a real revival. Announcements were made and due publicity was given that all the churches participate in these meetings

On the full two days, messages were given by Mr. Stanley Mohan, NMS Missionary from Basai and Bro. Jeya Prakash from Madurai. The meetings were so inspiring that the presence of the Holy Spirit was felt and many gave themselves fully to God. The climax to these meetings was when the two NMS missionaries from Sikkim ie. Mr. Daniel Bal and Mr. Bir Singh Lepcha shared their experiences with those present. Added to these the fitting finale was the soul stirring message given on the last two days by Prof. Pakiamoni, Area Secretary, Nazareth.

Those who accepted the challenges dedicated themselves to do God's work in various ways. A prayer group of sisters was formed and they decided to meet every Sunday from 4 P.M. to 5 P.M. in prayers. Secondly Mr. Henry Godwin undertook the responsibility of collecting subscriptions for NMS and sending to Headquarters, Thirdly the most important was an youngster by name Francis Bernadshaw offered for full-time ministry through NMS.

The NMS takes this opportunity of thanking all especially the Presbyter of St. Stephens Church, Rev. Ben Manohara Raja, for conducting these meetings in a fitting manner which will be an eye opener to others to follow.

The National Missionary Society of India

Headquarters : **206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014.**

PRAYER CALL

Prayer Week October 5 to 12 1986

An appeal to the Church Heads, Institutional Heads, Pastors and Lay Leaders

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

The N.M.S. Sunday will be observed on 12th October, 1986. This is mainly to praise God and to pray for the evangelistic activities in our country. If in any case, you cannot have the N.M.S. Sunday on this day, you may observe on another Sunday.

We request you all to pray for the evangelistic, medical and educational work undertaken by the N.M.S.

Paul in his letter to the Church in Corinth reminds them about the responsibility of proclaiming the good news and he says "For just preaching the Gospel isn't any special credit to me — I couldn't stop preaching it if I wanted to. I would be utterly miserable. Woe unto me if I don't." (I Cor. 9: 16—Living Bible).

The N.M.S. was formed to preach about Christ Jesus to the unreached people of our country and in the neighbouring countries, on its behalf and for the Indian church.

We are grateful to God for the encouragement which we have received from different church heads.

We would appreciate if one Sunday offerings, or a special offertory may be taken and forwarded to the N.M.S. Headquarters. We thank you and praise God for your involvement in the work of the N.M.S.

Yours in His Service,

The Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews,	**M. D. Selvaraj,**	**J. M. Jayasingh,**
President N.M.S,	*Hon. Treasurer.*	*General Secretary*

A glance

At present the Society is engaged in the evangelistic activities in 37 centres, and the total number of workers is over hundred. It has the work among Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, fishermen tribals, Tamils of Srilanka who are settled in the plantation areas of Kulathupuzha, tribals of Tamilnadu and Andhra.

There are enquirers and converts in all the centres. In some centres there had been continuous opposition. Yet in the midst of opposition, people are coming forward to know more about the love of Jesus.

Primary level of education is given to the tribals in Tamilnadu and fishermen children in Puri. A hostel for tribal girls was established in Jawadhi hills in 1981 and at present it has 39 inmates. It is supported by individuals, churches, women fellowships and Sunday schools from our country.

The Society needs 20 megaphones—to be given to the evangelists in the mission fields. It has to construct 3 houses for the evangelists in Jawadhi hills.

The present centres of work by N.M.S. are :

1. Jamnamarathur
2. Athipet
3. Kalyanamanthai
4. Gundalathur
5. Veerappanoor
6. Nadanoor
7. Kattian kudisai
8. Thongumalai
9. Allery
10. Pudur Nadu
11. Veeranamalai
12. Kandali—karagappatti
13. Kulathupuzha
14. Hebri
15. Hittinahalli
16. Kagal
17. Pentakotta
18. Nolayasahi
19. Malligachi
20. Kota
21. Basai
22. Chakkarpur
23. Mallihabad
24. Lakhimpurkeri
25. Bageshwar
26. Bihar Sherrif
27. Singtam
28. Khamdong
29. Rhenok
30. Mangalapur
31. Baitadi
32. Ludhiana
33. Srinagar
34. Gangavaram (Kakinada)
35. Silpahari, Belghana (M. P.)
36. Thenkanmuda (M.P.)
37. Pandharpur (Maharashtra)

This society of ours needs men and women who would rally around to pray, to support and to move into the mission field.

Expect Great things from God
and
Attempt great things for God

Let us all attempt in evangelising our country and the neighbouring countries.

LITANY

LET US PRAISE GOD

1. For your acts, manifesting your power in the history of mankind at many times and in many ways through your faithful servants.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

2. For sending your only begotten Son Lord Jesus into the world to save the world from sin and suffering.

Glory be to you O! God.

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

3. For your Commission to your disciples and through them to the Church and to every believer to preach the Gospel of Christ, to make disciples of all nations, to baptise them in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit and to instruct them.

Glory be to you! O! God

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

4. For the churches, ministry of evangelism and for the work of various missionary societies and particularly of the N.M.S.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

5. For the special vision of the founders of the N.M.S. to form the National Missionary Society of India as National, interdenominational, indigenous Society to win India for Christ.

Glory be to you O! God!

ALL: Thanks be to you O! Christ.

6. For your help and guidance during the last 81 years in the life and ministry of the Society.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

7. For the founders, officers, committee members and workers, who served in the past and the ones who serve in the Society at present.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Thanks be to you O! Christ.

8. For all the sponsoring churches, institutions, branches, area committees, prayer groups and individuals who are upholding the work both by prayer and finance.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Thanks be to you O! Christ.

9. For the converts won for Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the labour of the Society and handed over to the churches that are nearby.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

10. For the open door we have in our country to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Thanks be to you O! Christ.

11. For the leaders of our nation, President, Prime Minister, Central and State Governments and for all those in authority.

Glory be to you O! God

ALL: Praise be to you O! Christ.

LET US PRAY

1. For the Churches in India to realise their mission to reach the unreached people around them.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

2. For the various missionary Societies namely I.M.S, N.M.S, H.M.S, F.M.P.B, I.E.M., F.G.Y.M.A, and other Societies that are working in our dear land to co-operate and co-ordinate in the evangelistic work being undertaken separately.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

3. For the various centres of work and for the missionaries, evangelists, organising secretaries and other workers of the Society.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

4. For the direct involvement of the churches in our land in this endeavour by their prayer and finance to reach the unreached.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

5. To send enough men and women and money to meet the need of reaching the unreached in our land.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

6. For the leader, committee members, so that their vision to proclaim the good news of the Gospel may be deeper and clear.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

7. For more evangelists to go into the unreached areas for a mighty harvest and for nurturing them and for support.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto thee.

8. For the educational, medical, social, particularly the Gospel work in which the Society is engaged.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

9. For the 39 Tribal girls in the hostel at Jawadhi Hills, for their spiritual growth, educational improvement, character building and for their maintanence.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

10. For the leaders of our nation, President, Prime Minister and others who are in authority, may be guided by the Spirit of God

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

11. For our people to shed violence and love one another.

O Lord! hear our Prayer

ALL: Let our cry come unto you.

Lord's Prayer: Our Father.....for ever and ever Amen.

PRAYER: O God, who made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on face of the earth, we thank you for sending your only Son to offer Himself as a perfect sacrifice for the salvation of all nations. We thank you for the formation of the National Missionary Society of India, in your own time, through your faithful servants to carry the GOOD NEWS to the unreached, in this country. We pray to you to bless all the missionary efforts particularly the work and workers of the National Missionary Society of India. Quicker the day in which all Thy people of our country may accept, confess and worship you as their one God and Saviour. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WEEKLY PRAYER CALENDAR

Sunday:

(1) For the continuous revival in the churches.

(2) For the Bishops, Church Committees.

(3) For all those who go for worship.

(4) The churches may realize the responsibility of proclaiming. the good news.

(5) For all the evangelistic agencies in the country.

Monday :

(1) For the country-peace, love and harmony may prevail.

(2) For the President, Prime Minister, and all those who are in power in our country.

(3) For all the political parties that they may not be power mongers, but they serve the country.

(4) For the students, that they may study and obey their parents and educational authorities and they may not be diverted by the politicians.

(5) For the Office bearers of the N.M.S. and Committee members, who are the Hon. workers of the society. Particularly for the President, Vice-Presidents, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Asso. General Secretaries that they may guide the Society in fulfilling God's plan.

Tuesday :

(1) For the work in Kashmir, Nepal, Sikkim and Bageshwar.

(2) For the converts, that they may stand firm in their faith and witness the Lord.

(3) For the Evangelists and their families so that their vision may not be diminished but enlarged. The soul-winning burden may be renewed day by day.

Wednesday :

(1) For the work in West Bengal,Bihar, and Orissa, U.P. and M.P

(2) For the Evangelists and their families.

(3) For the new converts and enquirers.

(4) For the educational work at Puri, and for the contacts made among the pilgrims.

Thursday :

(1) For the work in Hebri, Hittinahalli (Karnataka), Kulathupuzha (Kerala) and Kagal (Maharashtra).

(2) For the enquirers.

(3) For the contacts made through distribution of tracts in all centres.

(4) For the Branch and Area Committees that they may spread the Missionary vision to the people.

(5) For the new workers and for their support.

Friday :

(1) For the work in Tamilnadu and A.P. viz. Jawadhi Hills, Kandili, Karagapatti Veeranamalai, Gangavaram (Kakinada)

(2) For the converts.

(3) The tribal barriers may be broken and people may accept Christ.

(4) For the medical and educational work.

(5) For the girls in the hostel at Jamnamarathur.

(6) For the evangelists who are working in 10 centres of Jawadhi, Kandili-Karagapatti Veeranamalai and Kakkinada.

Saturday :

(1) For the secret believers.

(2) For the worshipping group in the countries where there is no religious freedom, e.g. Nepal, Bhutan, Muslim and communist countries.

(3) For the people who prepare themselves to preach, conduct the service on Sundays and for the ones who go for worship.

(4) For the office staff at the Headquarters.

(5) For the Organising Secretaries, General Secretary and their families.

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OBITUARY

1. Mr. Peter Vellian of Allery, Jawadhi Hills, Tamil Nadu had his Home Call suddenly on 9-8-86. He has left behind his wife and two children aged 7 years and 5 pears respectively,

2. Mr. H. Stanley, aged 79 years, retired driver from Central Railway and father of the Secretary of NMSI branch, Bina, died on 17-9-'86,

3. Mr. David S. Marks, Retired T.T.I., Central Railway, Jhansi expired on 29-9-86.

4. Mr. P. H. Singh (born on 23-2-1926) had his home call on 18-8-'-86. He worked in the Railway as T. T. I. for 39 years. He has left behind his four sons ane a daughter.

5. Mr. D. S. S, Sargunaraj, teacher, Anderson Higher Secondary School, Kancheepuram had his home-call on 17th Sep. 1986 at the age of 47 years. He had distinguished himself in various fields in education. God used him as an instrument in His hand in the proclamation of the Good News among the unreached. Very recently, about a month before his demise, he generously donated the bicycle used by him for missionary work by the NMS Evangelist Mr. Sampath James at Lakhimpurkeri. North India. He has left behind his wife and children.

May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of these families

Mr. Samuel Shamsheer Ali, send for training with F. F. N I. in Vellore is terminated from the Training. He is no [illegible] with the N. M. S.

GENERAL SECRETARY

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

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The National Missionary Society of India
296, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

Peter in the Gospels (contd)

Reactions of Peter to Jesus and situations

Mathew 26; 30~53.

Soon after the washing of feet and last supper, Jesus and His disciples were singing together (Mt. 26: 30) and they went to the Mount of Olives.

In the upper room a touching scene has taken place by washing the feet of the disciples, who will be leaving Him alone; the one who will betray Him and the one who will deny Him. The disciples were confident in themselves that they will be with Jesus. But Jesus wanted to remind them of what will be happening and what will be the reactions of Peter in such situations.

1. Confirming His death and resurrection

Mathew 26:31-32

Though Jesus had repeatedly expressed to His disciples that He has come to this world to die and to be resurrected, the disciples were not able to grasp the truth. They were thinking only of a kingdom set up by Jesus in Jerusalem. But Jesus pronounced in saying that He will die and He will be resurrected. "You will all fall away because of me this night, for it is written 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Through this Jesus told His disciples that they will be scattered because their leader will be struck.

2. Peter's declaration. Vs. 33.

A seasoned fisherman, experienced in life, leader of the group self confident in thinking and action, bold enough to express his feelings (even he was bold enough to rebuke Jesus), declares that "though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." This shows what Peter is.

He had formed an opinion about himself and about others. "I will never fall away." Paul in his first letter to Corinthians says "Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12). Peter reaffirmed his statement and said "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you" (Mat 26: 35). In his earlier declaration he had expressed that "Though they all fall away" and again when he reaffirmed his declaration he had said "Even if I must die" shows what was Peter's concept about his fellow disciples and about himself.

Very recently, an evangelist was sharing about his own personal concerns with us, saying "I will, I can, I am not like others" and etc. These expressions of him reveal what he thinks about himself. No one can stand firm in his or her faith in Christ, except His grace. To be firm in Christ and to be with Him, to suffer for Him, we need His grace and mercy.

3. Jesus foretells of Peter ~ VS 34.

Knowing Peter very well from the beginning, even at the first meeting with Peter, when he was brought by his brother Andrew, Jesus told him, of who he is, and whose son he is and who he will be (John 1:42). Realising what Peter is, who he is, and how he will behave in situations, Jesus told him at his face "Truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." How often, we ourselves have declared that we will follow Him and yet Jesus has whispered in our ears saying, "You are going to deny me, you are going to betry me. you cannot stand in your own strength." He has repeatedly cautioned us, because He knows us thcroughly. As He has cautioned Peter, the spirit of God is cautioning us to be careful.

We cannot live a victorious life by our strength. To follow Him we need Him.

(To be continued)

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Last issue of the N.M.I. had to be coupled as August, September 1986. Still we are lagging behind and we want you to bear with us. In the month of October, we have interviewed a few candidates at Jhansi and Ludhiana and later a few in Madras. Out of them 7 were chosen for the work in the society and they will be joining the work from Ist of Jan. 1987. As Society we need to find out new support for these people. Will you be kind enough to pray and contribute for the work regularly ?

After the interviews in Jhansi, myself and Mr. F. S. Charles went to Delhi to meet the members of the Delhi Area Committee. The Delhi Area Committee members have expressed their co-operation and they requested to post an Organising Secretary in Delhi to contact the Christians in Delhi and in the adjoining States and Union Territories.

The attempt on the life of our Prime Minister on 2nd October 1986, has to be condemned. Thank God for protecting him. Let us join together with one accord to pray for the security of our National leaders and for the peace in Punjab and Sri Lanka. Let people give up violence and seek for peace and harmony with one another. May the Lord of peace be with you all.

Yours in His Service,

Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

FIELD REPORT

Allery : Mrs. & Mr. Charles

During the month evangelical work was centered in and around Karppana Kollai and Sandyankottai. In these villages Poonchi Gounder, Chinnapaiyan, Muthu and Kuppusamy evinced great interest in hearing the Gospel and it is hoped that they will accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour soon. They have reported that they visited 12 villages, contacted 107 individuals and conducted prayer meetings in nine houses. Besides that he Mr; Charles was also on deputation work in Salem for a few days.

Kalyanamanthai : Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Visited ten villages and did open air preachings in shandies and bus stands on six occasions. Hundreds of people heard the Gospel. All night prayer meetings were conducted on five days in which the participants were bound in fervent prayers for the evangelistic work of the NMS. In an elementary school in Krishnapuram, the children were told stories from the Bible, taught Bible verses and choruses. Similarly in another hostel of 100 children, ministry was done.

Two persons are willing to come to ministry. One person in Krishnapuram and two in Naickanur are keen enquirers. One Goundaraj has come to Madras for Bible studies. All these persons need our prayer.

Jamnamarathur : Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakkam.

They visited fifteen villages and ccntacted people individually and in groups and told the Gospel. Visited patients in their house and prayed for them. There are certain obstacles to Chandra w/o Mr Peter, the parents of Mr. Ponnusamy, Chenthamarai ; Sulochana and Muthu getting baptised. The parents of Jeya, Vijaya and Manjula are not permitting them to be baptised. The hostel

students Selvi, Kannagi, Jayanthy, and Thamilarasi are not keeping good health. Let us remember all the above mentioned persons in our prayers.

Pudur Nadu : Mrs. & Mr. Andrews.

The evangelist was on deputation for these days in Dindigul area. During that time he had the opportunity of giving messages about His ministry through the NMS. The meetings were arranged by the Branch Secretary Mrs. Somarathinam Chellappa. Meetings were held in the homes of Mr. Samuel Sundaram, Dindigul and Mr. Wilfred Devaraj in Bondinayakampattai. On the last day a message was given in St. Paul's CSI Church, Dindigul. In all those places it was stressed that the need of the hour is to spread the Gospel. There was good response to these meetings.

Nadanur : Mrs. & Mr. G. A. Raju, Mr. William Soundararajan, and Mr. John Soundararajan.

This team of evangelists visited ten villages and preached the Gospel. Small children were taught songs and Bible verses and told Biblical stories to suit their age. Open air meeting was held in Chinnamacher village when nearly 100 persons attended to hear the Gospel messagee Several were given medical aid for small ailments lik. headache, stomachache cold etc. with prayers. Three students have accepted Jesus Christ. Of them one Appasami of Kanavur village faced stiff opposition from his parents and villagers. This has some-what upset his faith in Jesus Christ. But the evangelists are frequently contacting him and praying for him so that he may not go from our Lord. Mr. William Soundararajan was on deputation work in Coimbatore, Pothanur, Attor and Kancheepuram. In all these places he was received effectively by the pastors of CSI churches and was given opportunities to give messages about Lord's ministry through the NMS. By this, large number of those assembled who had not known much about the NMS till then, were

amply benefitted. The deputation work had sown good seeds among the people.

Athipet : Mrs. & Mr. James Meyyan.

Visited 25 villages, contacted 125 tribal people and preached the Gospel message. It is reported that most of the tribal people still lead a debaucherous life, are addicted to drinks and idol worshippers. It is very difficult to preach the gospel among them and pursuade them to leave their sinful life. There is stiff opposition to the preaching of God's word.

The evangelists are given much trouble. In spite of several odds, the Gospel is carried to them and the weekly prayers are conducted regularly. Even those who have accepted Christ seldom join the prayers. Even the few who accept Jesus Christ are not stead-fast in their belief, and they slideaway. Our prayers are needed for these tribal people.

Night school is conducted regularly and 15 tribal children attend the classes regularly.

Thongumalai ; Evangelists

Their prayer requests are

1. For Mr. C. Ponnusami who is ready for baptism and that he may get a job in the Railways which he expects.

2. For Mr. Velliayan of Kunukanur village, who is ready for baptism. That the land disputes in his family may be settled early.

3. For Chinnakani and her husband of Thongumalai, believers in Christ, who lost their child recently.

4. For the teacher Radha who is a Hindu confronted with several problems in her family. She comes to the evangelists regularly once a week for prayers. That she may accept Jesus Christ as her Saviour.

Bijapur ; Mrs. & Mr. D. Prabudoss

They visited the village Lohagoan and Ittangihal for nine days and distributed tracts and Gospel books. In the open air meeting held in Lohagoan nearly 150 persons assembled and heard the Good news. Personal contacts were made and of those contacted Mr. P. C. Talewar, Mr. Bashusil, Mr. Sanelan, Mr. B. M. Haelian Gounder, Mr. B. T. Sonar Bhishen and Mr. A. S. Patil are ready to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour. In Kannamuchanel village Bible study was held in some houses for small groups of about ten people in each house. Follow up contacts were made in six villages. The family of Mr. Rajaram is very much interested in hearing the Gospel and are nearer to Christ. Kindly remember these persons and their families in your prayers so that they come to His Kingdom early.

Chakarpur : Rev. R. R. Vyas and Mr. C. Devanesan

Contacted two teachers ie. Mr. Verendra Kumar Khare and Mr. Inder Pal Singh Parihan and another educated gentleman Mr. Chandrabhan in the Hr. Sec. School Chakarpur. They want to know more and more about Christ and the Gospel. These seekers want to know the truth in Christianity. The next time the evangelists visited the school some of the students of the higher classes did not like the preachings and started shouting slogans. There is stiff opposition to the preachings of Gospel in these places. Pray for the evangelists that they may face the opposition with courage in the name of Jesus Christ.

A fisherman and his family in Kaipai who are believers in Lord Jesus are ill-treated by their parents and relatives. They are putting all kinds of obstacles in their life. Water to their fields is stopped with the result the crops are withering and no prospects of any yield. Pray that God give a change of heart to these evil-doers and that they let water flow freely to the lands of the fisherman and thereby he gets a good harvest for his livelihood.

Hussam Gunj : Mrs. & Mr. Mahesh Chandra

He reports that prayer meetings are held daily from 12-30 to 1-00 p.m. and Bible study is done with two seekers. Mr. Safique, Sadiq Ali and sister Kulsum have firm belief in the Word of God but are hesitant to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour for fear that they may face banishment by their community people. Please pray for them.

Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mr. Daud Sagar

The work of these evangelists is mainly among the fishermen community. Frequent and purposeful contacts are made. Cottage prayers are held regularly. On every Thursday Mrs. Mariamma our Bible Woman holds women fellowship meetings when a good number of ladies gather and hear the Gospel message. One child of Mr. Thomas who is a believer and the daughter of one Mr. Sinimachalan are suffering from Cancer. Kindly remember these children in your prayers that Jesus may heal them with His healing hands.

Singtam : Mr. V. T. Abraham, Mr. Bir Singh Lepcha and Mr. Daniel Bal

They report that in spite of some problems they are happy and the work of the Lord is going on smoothly and steadily. As usual prayer meetings and Gospel meetings were held in different places. Visited the hospitals at Gangtok and Singtam and prayed for the sick. During the course of their Gospel meetings had the opportunity of meeting some top Government officials i.e. Mr. M. M. Rasaily, Mr. S. K. Bashet, Mr. D. K. Bashet, Mr. Samden and Mr. N. T. Baulia and shared with them God's message.

In Gangtok a small Committee has been formed to work among the Lepchas. Mr. John Purba Tsering and Mr. P. O. Pazo, retired Government Officers are interested in this work. The evangelists have plans to visit North

Sikkim and do Gospel work among the Lepchas. Please pray that God may guide them in their task.

Kulathupuzha ; Mr. Pappachan &
Mr. Stephen Purushothaman

Mr. & Mrs. James and their children and daughter-in-law and Mr. Madaswamy of Thenmala and Mr. Arumugam of Malayalam Plantation have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. God willing they will be baptised in Dec. '86.

ADVERTISEMENT

Wanted a Finance Officer/Secretary for the National Council of Churches in India. Salary according to qualifications and experience (roughly Rs. 2,000/- to 3,500/- range). Free partly furnished house will be provided. Position permanent, but the candidate will be on probation for one year. Location at NCCI, Nagpur. The candidate should have good knowledge of financial operations, taxation rules and all statutory matters connected with the finances of religious and charitable organisations.

Apply immediately to ;

The General Secretary,
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Christian Council Lodge,
Nagpur-440 001.

SPECIAL NOTE

It is noted that some of you, who are receiving the N.M I., is also getting the news bulletins of the N.M.S. in your language (Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil and Kannada) Please write to the General Secretary about your wish to receive the news bulletin in only one of the languages.

OBITUARY

1. Dr. V. Thangamony of Nagercoil entered into the eternal home on 22nd March, 1986, following a brief ailment. He was 84. He was in the Medical Service of the Government both in Travancore-Cochin and in Tamil Nadu. After his retirement he settled down in Nagercoil. His wife Mrs. Falicita Thangamony, is the Secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Nagercoil Home Church. His son-in-law also died on 4th July 1986. The whole family is in bereavement due to these sudden deaths. Let us pray for the members of the bereaved family, particularly for Mrs. Thangamony.

2. Mrs. Mona Robin Singh who was a regular and enthusiastic member of N.M.S. had her home call on the 23rd October, 1986 at the age of 70 at her residence in Delhi. She was a teacher in Rookee for a number of years. She was married to Mr. Robin Singh in Aligarh, U.P. She was in the Government services and retired in May 1984,

She has left behind a son, a daughter, daughter-in-law and grand sons and daughters. She was a great supporter and well wisher of N.M.S.

3. Mrs. Grace Thambidurai, aged 75 years, wife of late Mr. D Thambidurai Pillai of Madras entered into her heavenly abode peacefully on 4th October 1986. She has left behind her daughter, sons, son-in-law, daughters-in-law, grand children and great grand children to mourn her loss.

May the God Almighty console and comfort the bereaved family.

List of Donors to "CHRISTMAS CHEERS" 1985-'86

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,, Alexander James	10	00
,, D. A. Samraj	5	00
Prof. P. G Dowie	10	00
Mr. J. Selvaraj	5	00
,, P. H. Dhanasingh	20	00
,, D. A. Kamaraj	5	00
,, W. S. Wencieslaus	250	00
,, C. Aruldoss	25	00
,, P. Thomas Jayaraj	50	00
,, G. Devaraj	75	00

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,, S. C. Dhanaraj	10	00
,, Ezra Samuel	50	00
,, C. D Thomas	10	00
Mrs Robinson	10	00
Mr. S D Jayakumar	15	00
,, S. Doraisamy	5	00
,, D Devavaram	10	00
,, D Rajan	10	00
Mrs Pramila Vasik	0	00
Mr. S. P. Vincent	5	00
,, M S. J. Tagore	5	00
,, A. C. Joseph	100	00
,, A. D. Jayasingh Paul	15	00
,, S. Sukumar	15	00
,, D. S. P S. Kanakaraj	10	00
Mrs. Premil Kumar	10	00
Mr. Charles Jayaseelan	10	00
,, J. E. Robert	10	00
Mrs. V, James	10	00
Mr P. Samuel	5	00
,, S. D. Samuel	5	00
,, S. D. John	10	00
,, G Danielraj	10	00
Dr. Sarah Wasan	10	00
Mr V. D. Charles	10	00
Dr. E G R Solomon	20	00
Mr S. Vincent	10	00
,, P. S Mangalaraj	5	00
,, Ebenezer Edwin	10	00
,, S Vedanayagam	10	00
,, M. Gnanapragasam	30	00
Thro Mr. T. D. Samuel	135	00
Thro Mrs. Edith K. Victor	1000	00
Women's Fellowship, Ulagameetpar Alayam Madras	100	00
Thro Mrs. Grace Arther	35	00
Dr. Mrs, J. Augustin	25	00
Thro Rev. J. M. Jayasingh	100	00
Mr. G, V. Quadir	25	00
Thro Mr Solomon Rajaya	10	00
Thro Mr. T. D. Samuel	30	00
Thro Mr. J. P Ashwal	2200	00
Thro Mr. David Suresh	436	60

SONG BOOKS

Mr. David Suresh, Organising Secretary has recently compiled and published a song book. It contains selective songs suitable for all occasions. It is priced Rs. 6-50 per copy plus postage. Those who desire to have are requested to contact:-

Mr. David Suresh,
18/63, Big Bazaar Road,
Coimbatore-641 001.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600 002

The National Missionary Intelligencer

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'Steady increase in foreign naval presence in Indian Ocean'

Burglary at knife-point

Women shot dead in clash

Sixth day of anti-Israel riots in West Bank

Iraqi air raids leave 100 dead in Ahvaz

Riots

INTERNATIONAL

Bandh in Delhi, four States

Lebanon ceasefire collapses

Another Japan volcano erupts

Lankan army on the rampage, claims EPIC

YEAR

Israel's 'covert' ties with China

OF

'Iran paid for bombing US barracks'

Student riots continue in Paris

PEACE

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FEB 5 1987

Hanoi troops will quit Kampuchea 'by 1990'

Isle of Man shoots for the big league

Indian Ministers for Colombo again

Australia ratifies South Pacific N-free treaty

India, Russia call for world ban on N-arms

"...AND PEACE ON EARTH TO THOSE WITH WHOM HE IS PLEASED" Lk. 2:14
(Today's English Version)

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Phone : 87314

MEDITATION

Peter in the Gospels (contd.)

Peter's actions in the garden

Matt. 26:36~53 Matt. 14:33~47 Luke 22:39~53

John 18:3~12. (Today's English Version)

Almost 3½ years Jesus was with His disciples, training them to be His followers. Realizing His time had come, He had the last supper with His chosen ones and finally moved out to Gethsemane to prepare Himself for the sufferings which were ahead of Him. Matt. 26:30 says "Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives." Lk. 22:39 says "Jesus left the City and went as He usually did, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples went with Him." Going to the Mount of Olives was a regular habit of Jesus in order that He may spend His time with the Father. Though it was a usual habit, it was the last time to be with the disciples there. Moreover it was to be in agony and pain. It was to submit Himself to the total plan of God. It was to suffer for the sins of the world.

As usual the disciples also went with Him to the Mount of Olives, but He asked them to pray saying "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." (Lk. 22:39b). This took place in Gethsemane in the Mount of Olives (Mark 14:32).

There in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Jesus said to His disciples "Sit here while I pray' (Mark 14:32b) but He took the trios with Him (Peter, James and John) in order that they may pray with Him. He expected these to be with Him in all circumstances. Having spent His time in agony, Jesus found them in slumber, particularly Peter, the one who said "I am prepared even to die for you."

Jesus asked Peter "Simon are you asleep? Weren't you able to stay awake even for one hour? (Mark 14:37b). This question was asked to Peter. Jesus had high hopes about Peter. A man who was called to be with Jesus is found in slumber when His master was agonizing. How often God's children have failed Him We have repeatedly said, we will be with Jesus, but miserably failed Him. It is because the flesh is weak though the spirit is willing. Here Peter was not alert in prayer to face the situations. The Son of God Himself had to spend time in prayer and how much we the human beings need to prevail in prayer.

Jesus saw the disciples (Peter) sleeping and even at the third time, He found them sleeping. He tried to wake them up repeatedly and reminded them of their responsibility. It is time for all of us to pray earnestly for the work of the Lord in our country and in the world. We have a number of Missionary Organisations, both the indigenous ones and those supported from the west. Every one of them talks either of India for Christ or of world evangelisation. Every Organisation spends in lakhs, but what is the net result? Everyone aims in bringing the people to Christ. We are spending money and appointing personnel. We had missionary Conferences and Consultations. Modern techniques have been used and yet the result in ? ? ? ? ? ? stands. Is it not because of lack of prayer and co-ordination? Have we not failed in prevailing prayer with our Master? Different organisations are interested in mobilizing the prayer support for their Organisations and for the Salvation of the lost world. Prayer and prevailing in it will bring the breakthrough in the evangelization of the world.

At the time, when Jesus was being led away, Peter became very alert and he did not want the enemies to lay hand on Jesus because he was for Jesus (Mark 14:47, Lk. 22:50, John 18:10). He was so quick in his action and he used the sword which was with him,

His love and loyalty, for his master was shown in action by striking the High priest's slave. His ear was cut down. Peter was so zealous for his master. In Luke 22:50, we find the disciples were seeking permission to use the sword "Shall we use our swords, Lord?"

Again Peter was rebuked saying "Enough of this!" and we find in John 18:10-11, Jesus commanded Peter to put his sword back in its place. Jesus did not approve his actions. Peter was loyal and zealous for Jesus but we see Jesus did not appreciate all what Peter had been doing. In our zealousness and loyalty to Jesus and His mission we do so many things, but are all of them appreciated and approved by our Lord?

Here we need to look at the way Christ has acted.

He was prevailing in prayer, while His disciples were sleeping.

He did not approve Peter's actions.

He wanted Peter to keep back his sword

He touched the ear of the slave and healed, at the time when he was led away.

Here He proves His mission in loving the people who came to arrest Him.

He was willing to accept the suffering and rescue others than to be rescued.

Where are we? Are we like Peter?

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

A year of "International Peace", only talked but little achieved, is almost coming to an end. Violence, killings, looting, destruction of public property, plans for star wars, threatenings etc., have became the order of the day. Let the peace of God rule over us.

Christians in Coimbatore have witnessed another NMS Annual Sale on 16—11—1986 It was held in the CSI Christ Church Campus at Trichy Road. Thank God for the efforts of the branch leaders and for the Organising Secretary. A short report is included in this issue of the NMI.

The contributions for Christmas Cheers for 1986 are being received, and we express our heartfelt thanks to you for your gifts.

This issue of the NMI may not have the reports from fields, but only the other items. We are trying to put in more materials for reading and we hope to begin a new series in writing about the fields and about the people who are serving in the Society.

The next issue, (December) may come only after Christmas but it will be a Christmas issue.

The Peace of Jesus Christ may prevail in your life during this Christmas Season.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

PEACE

The year 1985 is the year of International peace declared by the United Nations Organisation. During the year we have noticed people writing about world peace talking about world peace, making peace marches by the people from all walks of life. Christian periodicals have carried on the message for world peace. Prayers were offered for world peace. The Pontiff of the Roman Catholic church called together different groups of people for a time of prayer for Peace. Delegations were deputed by different countries to make peace. A number of unknown individuals in small Christian groups and churches have prayed continuously for peace; particularly for the peace in the neighbouring country Sri Lanka, where the ethnic struggle continues by killing one another. It is also important to note the killings in Punjab, which is in our own country. We have longed for peace and prayed for all those who are in distress in such places.

The number of murders have increased, looting of one another's property has increased, committing suicides have increased and we find no end to such things. In the front page of the news papers we find only sad and disheartening news. There is no safety anywhere. We can go on narrating such things.

Do we find any success in the human attempts in bringing peace to this world ? It is a big question and we do not find any proper answer. The world powers talk about international peace, but at the same time they prepare for star wars. Religious leaders talk about communal harmony, but they organise "SENAS". Militant groups of different religions have their Senas to attack others and kill them.

Are we Christians in any way better than others? Our actions are known to everyone and we also do not contribute for peace but for disharmony. What about the strifes in our churches, Organisations, families and are we not trying to root out one another? Why such things happen?

1. We want to expose ourselves to be better and mightier than others.

2. We want others to obey us.

3. We want our language to be used by everybody.

4. We want to make money by selling weapons and ammunitions to others.

5. We want myself and my family, my people to exist and not others.

There are a number of other things which could be written but if we analyse it all could be contained in the words as follows:

"SINFUL SELF"

How Peace could be achieved?

Peace has to come from God. In this world of strife and struggle, destruction and perils, everyone needs peace. People have to make peace with one another. We find in the word of God repeatedly, when one meets another they expressed saying as "Peace be with you". It was used for salutation That shows that we are not enemies, we are friends and we can live in peace.

In the messianic promise in Isaiah 9:2-9, we find about the coming Messiah and His Characteristics. One of the characteristics is said as "PRINCE OF PEACE". This Prince of Peace came to this world. His peace prevailed in the human hearts who were in fear and darkness. Lk. 2:8-14. While angels proclaimed the glad tidings of joy, they sang Glory to God in the highest heaven, and PEACE ON EARTH to those with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2:14).

He came to make peace with whom He is pleased. To achieve peace in the nation or in the World, men have to accept Him. Having come to this world He reconciled Himself to the world. And yet the world wants to have its way.

The Bible also tells of the war, strife, enmity, famine etc, which have to take place in the last days, particularly before His second coming (Please read Matt. 24).

We live in a time when we are desperately in need of peace in the world, peace in each nation, among all sorts of people, families and individuals. It can be achieved in and through Jesus Christ alone.

J. M. JAYASINGH

World Christian Tamil Academy Conference

The above Conference will be held at the Bain School campus in Madras from 27th to 29th December 1986. For registration and other details, please contact Prof. P. A. Sathiasatchy, C. L. S P.O. Box 501, Park Town, Madras-600 003.

All India Spiritual Renewal Conference

The 6th All India Spiritual Renewal Conference will be held at Kaloor, Cochin 682 017, from 27th to 30th January 1987. Those, who wish to attend this are requested to register their names with the Rev. George Ninan, St. Francis CSI Church, Fort, Cochin-682 001, Kerala, by paying Rs. 25/- each. They will have to meet their travel.

NMS ANNUAL SALE IN COIMBATORE

The N M S Branch of Coimbatore had its Annual Sales during this year, on 16-11-1986. The Sale was held at Christ Church, Trichy Road, Coimbatore, and a total amount of Rs. 15,273/50 was raised at the Sales.

The Presbyters and the Pastorate Committees of all the Churches in Coimbatore had extended their helping hand in having the Sales conducted and we praise God for each one of them.

The Christ Church at Trichy Road has supplied a bicycle and a petromax light to be used by one of the Evangelists of NMS in Jawadhi Hills, at a cost of Rs. 1,000/- and received by the General Secretary at the morning service on 16th Nov. 1986.

We appreciate the efforts of the Presbyters and Pastorate Committee and members of the Christ Church in helping the National Missionary Society of India.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for the evangelists of the N.M.S. and other Missionary Organisations who are serving in the cold places in North India. Pray for their protection.

2. Pray for the Christmas programmes which our evanlists have planned for Christmas in their own stations People in such places may come to know the love of Jesus in a better way.

3. Pray for the new evangelists who will be joining the work of the N.M.S. from 1st January 1986.

4. Pray for Mr. Victor Morris Robinson, who had taken over the Organising Secretary's work in U.P. and Bihar.

Org. Secretary for U.P. and Bihar.

Mr. Victor Morris Robinson,
A-967/14, H.I.G., Indira Nagar,
Lucknow-226 016-U.P.

5. Pray for our Country that the people of different Communities and religions may shed violence and love one another.

6. Pray for the Rt. Rev. Dr. Sundar Clarke, the Bishop of Madras Diocese of the C.S.I. who is going to Sri Lanka on a Peace mission at the invitation of the Anglican Bishop in Sri Lanka.

7. Pray that Christmas Season may bring in Joy and Peace to everyone.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

OBITUARY

1. Mr. Elmer Elliot Netram, the son of late Rev. J. W. R. Netram who served our Lord for many years in the Delhi area, had his Home Call on 16—11—1986. He was 72 years. He has left behind his daughter and son-in-law with their two sons and a daughter.

2. Mr. Frank Samuel, Teacher, Muslim Higher Secondary School, Triplicane, Madras, and a resident of Royapettah, had his Home Call suddenly on 2—10—1986 at the age of 55. He was an active supporter of NMS. He was a very generous person, helping others and donating liberally to Missionary Organisations.

3. Rev. Padam Singh, Kota, Rajasthan, expired on 6-12-1986. He was a staunch supporter of the N M.S.I.

4. Shri D. Yogan, C.N.I., Masihi Mandir, Indore, had his Home Call on 18-9-1986. He was born on 21-6-1905. He was a supporter of the NMS work in Indore for many years. His children too are good supporters of the NMS work, one of whom Mr. Rajkumar Yohan is the Registrar of the Indore Christian College, and another son Mr. Victor Mangalwadi, former Secretary, Allahabad Auxiliary Bible Society of India.

May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of these families.

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IN MEMORIAM

Late Miss Getsie Samuel of Madras who went to be with the Lord ten years ago, was remembered by the members of her family. She was a faithful praying and contributing member of the N M.S.

Reported by Mr. Isaac Sathiaraj.

CHRISTMAS CARD

It is our practice to send Christmas greeting cards to our relatives and friends and it is a good practice. Why not we make an attempt in sending Christmas cards with prayers to some non-Christian families and visit them at this season? It will be a wonderful experience for us.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600002

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MAY 18 1987

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We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year

The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600014 Phone: 87314

NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Joshua 1:9b "Don't be afraid or discouraged, for I the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go".

Churches, Christian Organisations, and Institutions used to select promises from the word of God and print them in their calendars, book marks and other publicities to encourage people to remind them that God is with them in their daily lives. God's word makes the man to face situations and challenges from the world. We have come into another calendar year. It is our tendency to look back to the failures of the past and regret for the same. It is good to look back to the past and ask the Lord to cleanse us We need cleaning from above. Once a man said "my conscience pricks and guilt in me haunts me". He made the statement because his past was not forgiven. Fear haunted him until he had the assurance that his sins were forgiven. According to Bible man can be happy and blessed if only his sins are forgiven. (Psalm 32:1-2).

Joshua was not haunted by the fear of the past, but by the fear of the future. Here they were at the bank of Jordan. It was flooded and no way to cross it along with a huge nation.

Their leader was dead and gone. Definitely there would be others who wanted to be leaders, but God had chosen Joshua.

He had the fear of the people who were there with him, because their forefathers had repeatedly rebelled against God's plan, murmured against God, and the leadership.

He also had the fear of the enemies who lived beyond Jordan. He was expected to lead this particular nation to destroy the nations living on the other side of the river

and occupy the Canaan land which was promised to Abraham by their forefathers.

The fear in Him, made him to realize that it was impossible for him to go ahead by himself. He needed God, God's strength and power, to lead the nation amidst the problems from his people, nature and of the people beyond the Jordan river.

It was in such situation God met him and gave this promise saying "I the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go". God never changes His words. These words of promise enabled Joshua to lead the nation. His word to Joshua was that "God will go with him as Lord and God wherever he goes." It was not mere words but He assured him in person.

But this assurance will be fulfilled only on the basis of certain conditions which we see in verses 7 and 8. God had made promises to man only with conditions either they may be preceded or followed.

Here God made promises, but they were only with certain conditions.

> "Just be determined, be confident: and make sure that you obey the whole Law that my servant Moses gave you. Do not neglect any part of it and you will succeed wherever you go. Be sure that the book of the Law is always read in your worship. Study it day and night, and make sure that you obey everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." (Vs. 7-8).

The Law given by God has to be followed and he should study it. God's Law has to be followed and obeyed.

We have entered into another year and God has given several promises, but to some people only one "I will be

with you". If He has to be with me or with you, I and you need to follow His written word and obey it.

To some people His word has become very old, because they think God is so old and no longer relevant to their day-to-day life. But every time, when we read and study His word He speaks to us, because He is relevant even today and He lives.

He speaks to us, guides us, strengthens us, encourages us, warms us, and commands us to cross over and occupy the land; To occupy the unreached places and for Him and to establish His Kingdom.

May His promises be fulfilled in our lives. He is with us. Amen.

J. M. JAYASINGH,

NMS UTHAGAMANDALAM BRANCH

NMS Uthagamandalam Branch is having its Annual Sales on Sunday **1st February 1987** at St. Stephen's Church at 2-30 p.m., followed by dedication at CSI Holy Trinity Church of an NMS evangelist as their Missionary. Earnest prayers are solicited and those residing at Nilgiris District and vicinities are requested to participate in the Dedication Service and Sales.

DAVID SURESH,
Organising Secretary.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We are in the new year and the Society also has entered into another year of service on 25th Dec. 1986. We were all very busy with Christmas celebrations and I am sure at least a few of you would have thought of this and praised God for this Missionary Society of ours. Here in the office a few of us met together and had some time of introducing for the Society, its work and workers.

Seven new evangelists (one with family) have joined the work of the Society during this month. They need your prayers. God willing another group will be interviewed during this month.

Mr. Gunasekaran was discharged from the hospital and his health has improved. Thanks to all the friends who have contributed for the medical expenses of Mr. Gunasekaran.

The World Christian Tamil Academy was kind enough to confer on me a title as "Narchaithi Selvar" (one who tells the good news) in recognition of my service both in the Church and in the N.M.S. This privilege I have got because of my service in the N.M S. So I am personally grateful to God and thankful to N.M.S. This honour has enabled me to re-think about my calling to serve Him. I am also thankful to the leaders of the World Christian Tamil Academy. particularly Pro. P. A Sathia Satchi and Rev. Dayanandan Francis. May their efforts be blessed by God and bring honour and glory to God.

The year 1987 has been declared by United Nations as "the year for home for homeless." Last year was the year of peace and we know what the U.N O. has achieved in bringing peace. We have to wait and see what the

U.N O. has to offer to the people who are homeless by poverty, war and internal struggles all over the world. Jesus said ' I am going to prepare a place for you and I will come again". Yes, we have a home which is being prepared by our Father.

As a society, we should strengthen the work of the Society. As I thought about strengthening the work, the following thoughts came to my mind.

I. To conduct retreats for the N.M.S. workers to be revived spiritually.
   1. Retreat for the office staff.
      (This will take place at the end of this month)
   2. Retreat for the N M S. workers in North India.
      (Planning to have it in March)
   3. Retreat for the N.M.S. workers in South India.
      (Planning to have it in March)
   4. Retreat for the Organising Secretaries.

II. Conduct retreats and conferences for the N. M. S. supporters.

III. To appoint more workers in the field.

To conduct the retreats for the N.M S. workers, it will cost about Rs. 30,000/- and we have no funds for the same. All the full-time workers in the Society constantly need to be refreshed and renewed in their spiritual life, so that the vision of reaching the unreached may not be diminished. This is planned, because we have realized the need. May we kindly have your prayers and financial support for this project ? Let us strengthen the evangelistic work in this land by rededicating ourselves for His work through the Churches and Missionary Organisations.

May He be with you.

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

FIELD REPORTS

Mrs. & Mr. SAMPATH JAMES—LUKHIMPURKERI

They report about some of their experiences in the villages visited by them and they are briefed below.

Kheri : Nearly 95% of the people in this town are Muslims. Their general belief is that Jesus Christ is an ordinary Nabi who neither died nor rose from the dead. However, some among them want to know more about Jesus especially one Mohamed Farook who has got the address from which he can get gospel tracts and New Testament. Short messages are given to the local students of the I.T.I. through the megaphone, and tracts are distributed to them. Some students evince keen interest in hearing the Gospel message.

Ramapur : The good news of the gospel was told to the police in the Check Post in the place besides twelve others. The gospel was preached to the villagers accompanied by songs.

Phadapur : While giving the gospel message in this village an elderly woman came and asked the evangelists whether Jesus Christ has come again, and she was explained about the second coming of Jesus Christ and His judgment.

Chitalpur : A group of persons in this village are bent upon giving a lot of trouble to the evangelists in their gospel work. On one occasion the evangelists was taken aside, threatened and used abusive language against him. They used slang language about the Christians and the Bible

Dear readers let us pray for the evangilists and their work and that they may get the strength and courage from our Lord to face all the evil forces.

Belghana : Mrs. & Mr. Immanuel

The evangslists have been provided with a megaphone. They report that they make good use of it in open air preachings. They have visited 24 villages and distributed tracts. In some of the hilly villages there is no access by roads. Hence the evangelist has to trek long distances on foot having the dangers and opposition to the preaching of the gospel He reports that he is keen in taking the gospel message to the unreached. Pray that God may give all guidance and protection to them in their work.

Hebri : Mr. Godfrey B. Soans

During the month visited Hebri, Belange, Agumbe, Santhekatta, Kurpady, Vandarbettu Kanyana, Chara, Bongargudda and Santhekatta villages and made house visits, distributed tracts and preached the gospel. Concentrated his preachings amongst Kudubi people and told about the love of God and the need to accept Him as their Saviour. Sheena Ganniga and Narayana of Chara village are believers and they want to meet the evangelists often. Pray that they may accept Jesus Christ soon.

Ludhiana—Punjab : Miss Salina Rekha

She reports that she did open-air preachings in a number of places and distributed tracts. Visited 15 families in distress, consoled and prayed for them. Also made it a point to visit hospital and pray for the sick. She reports of an instance where a lady who was working in a clinic on a small salary of Rs. 200/- per month and leading a hard life, and after prayers by the evangelist got a job in the C.M.C hospital on a salary of Rs. 500/- p.m. The evangelist is also praised for our God that her prayers were heard. A boy by name Posban and a lady by name Neelam have accepted Christ Jesus. Please pray for them.

Nadanur : Mr. William Soundaraj & Mr. John Soundarajan

Both of them visited nine villages and in four villages did open air preachings and had prayer meetlngs in the houses of their believers. The students were told short stories and taught small songs and choruses about the Love of God. The village leader of Nadanur Mr. Annamalai is a firm believer but he hesitates openly to accept Jesus Christ, because of his position in the village. He is frequently contacted and told about the love of God. Pray that he may come under His fold soon. Mrs. Amirtha a believer, and some students are affected with virus fever, Pray that God may restore them to normal health soon.

Allery : Mrs. & Mr. P. C. Charles.

The work of the evangelists during the month was centred in the four villages i e., Manithavalli Medu, Karuppanakollai, Panaimarathu Kollai and Perianathan Koppan. In these villages, house visits, open air preachings, tracts distribution, contact of young children and students were undertaken. Special prayers were undertaken for 36 sick persons in the area and some were cured of their ailments. Pray that they may grow in the faith of our Lord. Prayer meetings were held in eight houses and they were very useful in the spiritual life of those who gathered there.

Kalyanamanthai : Mrs. & Mr. M. Jesudoss.

Their prayer requests are ;

1) for the four people who attended a prayer meeting came forward, and knelt and prayed that they may be dispossessed of the evil spirit and sickness.

2) for Mr. Annamalai of Palamathur who is eager to know about God.

3) for Mr. Annamalai, the land owner, whom God is touching gradually

4) for the 15 youths who believe in our God may accept Him soon.

Veerappanur : Mrs. & Mr. Robert John.

Visited ten villages and told the gospel message to the people. The son of one Mr. Vattu of Veerappanur who was suffering from diarrhoea was cured when the evangelists visited his house and prayed for him and gave the gospel message. So also Selvam of Palakottai village, the son of Mr. Kuppan of Ettimanuthur, and Bangur Govindan's son were cured of their diseases. They all now believe in God. Please pray for them.

Kandili—Karagapatti: Mrs. & Rev. A. Thiraviam

They report the following incident. Master Mathian, son of Mr. Shanmugam of Karagapatti was suffering from brain fever as a result, he was speechless for some days, did not take food and his limbs were motionless. Even though he was taken to the hospital he had no cure. Finally the parents took the boy to the evangelists for prayers. They were told about the love and power of God His death and His resurrection. His second coming and fervent prayers were undertaken. The boy was cured and the parents said that as a whole family they would accept Jesus Christ. But they have back slidden and the evil forces behind this are not known. Will you please pray for this family ?

Mr. Pacharajan and his family members of Karagapatti village and Mr. Govindaraj and his family members of Vathanapatti village have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour and are prepared to be baptised. Remember them in your prayers.

Mrs. Menaka who is employed as a nurse at Chengleput has accepted Christ and wants to be baptised. But she is being harassed and beaten by her husband and is threatened that she will have to face serious consequences if she still persists in her belief. Pray that

God give a change of heart to her husband and that the obstacles in her accepting Christ are broken.

Pudurnad : Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews

They visited 12 villages and preached the gospel to 52 persons. As a follow up programme 27 persons were contacted and New Testaments were given to five persons. In Kombai village special gospel work was done for children where nearly 40 children gathered and they were taught small Bible verses and songs. They report that by hearing the gospel message again and again, a good number of persons are believers in Christ and these persons are contacted at frequent intervels and to those who know to read New Testaments are given.

Kattiankudisai : Mr. Francis Bernadshaw & Mr. Vijayan

They report that Christmas was a time of great rejoicing especially for children to know about the love of God. On 22nd Dec. 86 they, with the assistance of students, arranged the staging of a drama titled 'MANAM MARIYA MAHEN". The Christmas programmes for children included teaching Bible verses and small songs to them, exhibiting Christmas trees, and giving them small Christmas gifts. The Children had a pleasant time.

Gundalathur : Mrs. & Mr. Jayaraj Samuel

During the month they visited 15 villages and distributed tracts. Some youths were met with the gospel individually and in groups. Some responded while some others were not interested. They report that many people in the area are proned to evil habits and want our prayers that they desist from such evil habits. Christmas programmes were arranged, in which children, youngsters and elderly people participated enthusiastically. It was an occasion for all to gather together and share the love of God. It is gratifying to note from their reports that the

participants included officials from the local Government offices, Banks, Schools, and local Bodies.

Mrs. Saramma Jayaraj reports that during the month 103 persons were treated for illness and some were cured. It was an opportunity to preach the gospel to the patients when they come for treatment.

Bijapur : Mrs. & Mr. Prabhudas ;

Visited Dhandargi village where open air preachings, door to door contacts and tracts distribution were undertaken. The response was good. Four persons i.e., Mr. Hipralla, Mr. Sivanand. Mr. Zogin and Mr. Yellappa are willing to accept Christ.

Also visited Hegadihal village and preached about the birth of Christ. In this village four persons i.e., Mr. Pariraman, Mr. Bakavadia, Mr. Mallappa, Mr. Animonthara and Mr. Ramappa evinced keen interest in the gospel and in the word of God. Please pray for them.

Report on the Convention At Madurai

The Madurai Area Committee held the annual convention of the NMSI for four days from 6th to 9th Nov. 86 in Webb Memorial Church, Madurai. Messages were given on the first two days by Mr. Gandhi, Superintendent in Highways Department and on the next two days by Prof. Packiamani. Mr. K. Victor Henry NMS Organising Secretary at Madurai, gave an account of the work of the NMS and the need for more active participation of the Churches and the Congregation in the task of taking the gospel to the unreached. On behalf of the N.M.S. we thank Rev. Anburaj for his help and co-operation in conducting the convention.

PRAYER REQUEST

Mrs. Yunas :

Mrs. Yunas W/o Mr. Daniel Yunas Hon. Treasurer of Delhi Area Committee, was admitted to the hospital for treatment of high B P. and enlargement of heart. She is now better and has come home. Pray that God cure her of all her ailments and restore her to normal health soon.

Miss Kokila Rebecca :

We regret to inform you that Miss Kokila Rebecca, Warden of our Jawadhi Tribal Girls Hostel, met with an accident in Jamnamarathur and she was admitted to CMC Hospital, Vellore, on 23rd January 1987. Due to spinal Cord damage, her both upper and lower limbs are paralysed and she is in the intensive care unit of Neurologieal Section.

You are requested to pray for her complete recovery in order that she may be able to resume duties.

Her treatment in the C.M.C. hospital in Vellore will cost us more and we need to find funds for the expenses. Let us pray to the Lord for help in tnis connection. Those who are contributing for the medical help may earmark as "WORKER'S EMERGENCY MEDICAL HELP', and send to the Hon. Treasurer, N.M.S.I.

Madras City :

The Madras Committee on Urban Evangelism is organising a prayer concert for Madras City every second Saturday of the month. Please join us in prayer from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on 14—2—1987 at the Haven. Salvation Army, Hunters Road, Madras-600 007.

Co-ordinator :

Mr. Sam R. Thanaseelan,
15, Venkatesapuram Extn.,
Ayanavaram, Madras-600 023.

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OBITUARY

Mrs Ada Ponniah, Madurai : (Belated news)

Mrs. Ada Ponniah, Wife of the late Dr. J. S Ponniah, Rtd Deputy Director of Statistics in the Central Government, had her Home Call on 15—5—1986. She had been an indomitable spirit infusing hope and courage in the minds of several needed people and refugees who approached her and she toiled tirelessly for the Lord.

When she was approached to raise funds for the NMS in Madurai, she plunged her heart and soul into this noble venture, moving from door to door and saying "My beggar's bowl is only for the cause of the N.M S."

She left behind her two daughters, one, the Principal of Sara Tucker College, Palayamkottai and the other Mrs. Janaky Gnanamnthu who is doing her post graduate course at Hyderabad.

Mr. S. John Devasahayam of Pasumalai, Madurai :

He had his home call on 10—1—1987 at the age of 91. He served as a teacher in the Pasumalai School for 40 years. He was sincerely involved in Village Church uplift, and also in sharing the love of God with children. He had the evangelistic zeal Miss Ruby Devasahayam, the former Headmistress of Caoron Hall Hr. Sec. School, is the daughter of late Mr. Devasahayam.

May the Lord grant comfort and consolation to the bereaved members of these families.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bayajif Press, Madras-600002

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'Praise the Lord O my soul. and all that is within me praise His Holy Name.

Praise the Lord O my soul : and forget not His benefits"

(Ps. 103: 1 & 2)

We wish you a Joyous Christmas and

A Prosperous New Year

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Phone : 87314

MEDITATION

A WOMAN IN CHRISTMAS

Luke 1 : 26-38

"I am the Lord's Servant" said Mary, "May it happen to me as you have said" and the angel left her. (Vs. 38).

Preparation for Christmas started on the day when man disobeyed God. The disobedience made God to prepare Himself to send His only begotten Son to this world, who was called the Son of Man, and the Son of God. To be born in this world He had to find a suitable virgin. That virgin was Mary of Nazareth in Galilee. (Luke 1:28).

This Mary was a virgin and she was engaged to one Joseph of the David's family She was visited by the angel Gabriel who told her "Peace be with you !" The Lord is with you and greatly blessed are you !" Vs. 28. The angel continued and said "Don't be afraid, Mary, God has been gracious to you·····Vs. 30-33.

It was very common and as per the tradition when people met together they saluted each other and said "Shaloam" "PEACE BE WITH YOU." Here when the angel Gabriel saluted her we find the following :

1. Peace be with you.
2. The Lord is with you.
3. Lord has greatly blessed you.
4. Don't be afraid.
5. God has been gracious to you.

6. You will conceive in your womb and give birth to a Son.

7. You will name him Jesus.

8. He will be great.

9. He will be called the Son of the Most High God.

10. The Lord God will make him a king.

11. He will be King for ever.

12. His kingdom will never end.

After the salutation and the promises, the angel said a few more things, when Mary expressed that "I am a virgin, How, then, can this be ?"

1. The Holy Spirit will come upon you.

2. God's power will rest upon you.

3. For this reason the holy child will be called the Son of God.

4. Your relative Elizabeth hath conceived a son in her old age.

5. There is nothing that God cannot do.

Having heard all these things, it is natural to ask, How this could be ? What is this salutation ? What lies in these promises ?

What the people will tell about me, if I became conceived before I am married. I am only engaged to Joseph.

God was looking for a person through whom He could fulfil His plan of salvation and found Mary the fittest person in this world to be used as an instrument.

She accepted the plan of God to be fulfilled in and through her; though it was a painful one. Her response was :

"I am the Lord's servant, may it happen to me as you have said." She made a total surrender of herself to the Lord.

A young man's marriage was arranged and he was very happy about it. He also went on and conveyed this good news to all his friends and everyone was very happy. Suddenly the bride's family wanted to cancel the planned marriage and they did it. The young man became very sad and the Lord began to deal with him in a different way and told him, "This is from me and I have done it." It was very difficult for him to accept, but he accepted. After several years, he knew why God had stopped that marriage. He could understand it only because he accepted the Lord's Plan.

For Mary, Christmas was definitely a painful one but she was willing to accept the pain and sorrow and be His servant.

At this Christmas are we willing to accept the pain and sorrow and say, "Lord, here I am your servant" ?

J. M. JAYASINGH.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

At the outset let me wish you the seasonal greetings.

May God enable you to have a meaningful and joyful Christmas in the sense of sharing His joy with others.

May He also grant you a blessed new year 1987.

N. M. S. News

1. The N.M.S. Executive Committee was held at the Voorheese College in Vellore from 21st to 23rd Nov. 1986. The Executive Committee has given extension of service to General Secretary for a further period of 3 years from Feb. 1987. It is my desire that I may be an instrument in serving Him through this Missionary Society.

2. The Rev. Dr. A. N. Gopal, who had served in the N.M.S. Executive, as representative from the Lutheran Church for the last several years had his home call on 5th Dec, 1986. His death is a loss to the Church and the Society.

3. A family Christmas get-together of the N.M.S. evangelists in Tamilnadu (Jawadhi Hills and Kandali-Karagapatti) was organised at Jamnamarathur on 13th Dec. 1986. The General Secretary and his family participated and gave presents to the evangelists. Rev. Thiraviam who was in charge of the programme mentioned that we are having this kind of programme for the first time.

4. Mr. Gunasekaran, an evangelist of the N.M.S. serving in Basai, M P. was charged by a cow and his back-side was pierced. He was admitted to the hospital where 25 stitches were given to the pierced portion of his body. He is recovering. Thank God for saving his life from distruction.

Christmas Cheers

This year we were able to spend a total amount of Rs. 30,000/- for the Christmas Cheers of the N. M. S. workers. Single persons in the society were given Rs. 275/- and the family were given Rs. 550/- each. This was made possible by the generous contribution of the members, supporting churches and groups and well wishers of the society. We thank each one of them.

Peace mission

The Rt. Rev. and Dr. Sundar Clarke, Bishop of the Madras Diocese had a successful peace mission in Sri Lanka, where he had met the Church leaders and political leaders, particularly the President J. R. Jayewardene of Sri Lanka. He is planning to meet the ethnic group leaders of Sri Lanka, who are in Madras. He has requested the Moderator of the C.S.I. to follow up with a peace commission from the Church of South India. Let us continue to pray that peace and harmony may return back to Sri Lanka.

A matter of concern

As we have come to the end of year which was declared as a year of International Peace, we find the growth of terrorism, robbery, murder, plans for star wars, regionalism communalism, etc. It is time for us to earnestly pray for peace in our country and in the world.

We do not know what is ahead of us. Let the God of Peace over-rule our minds and hearts at the end of this year and prepare us for 1987.

With the Christmas and new year greetings and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

(Reported from NMI Dec. 1915)

The Christmas season comes again and brings to our remembrance once more the thought of God's eternal Christmas gift. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given". May we each receive God's inexhaustible and perennial Christmas gift more fully than ever before in our hearts? The Christmas season brings to us the thought of both receiving and giving. We can only receive and realise the gift of Christ more fully ourselves if we give Him freely to others. To us He is given that we may give Him to India and the world. It is the day of glad tidings; let us not hold our peace.

Other lands have had great awakenings in recent years. Uganda has been quickened. Korea has had a great revival. China has seen a remarkable campaign among the officials, students and leading classes, where hundreds have already been baptised and have united with the Church. But has not the day of India's awakening also come? God seems to be saying to us today: "I have begun to deliver. Begin to possess". "Go up and possess the land."

The most encouraging thing that I have seen since landing in India a few months ago is the remarkable evangelistic campaign which is being carried on by the Christians of South India. During the last week we have seen an audience of fifteen hundered Hindus every night in Vellore. In Madura three thousand men every night, and a thousand men every night, and a thousand non-Christian women each day gathered to listen to the straightest preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Some hundreds have given in their names as willing to study the New Testament or to attend further meetings for enquirers. Scores of voluntary workers are engaged in each city in house to house visitation following up the enquirers, conducting

Bible classes and personal work. Quite a number of men and women have already been baptised and received into the churches.

During the recent "special work of simultaneous evangelism," meetings were conducted throughout the South India United Church. This Church already has a membership almost double that of the entire Protestant community of Japan. At present they have some 10,000 Christian men and women attending special Bible classes to prepare them as workers in this campaign. More than 8,000 voluntary workers carried the gospel into the cities, towns and villages of South India. During this special week, they successfully conducted meetings in 3,814 villages; 206,900 men and 104,000 women attended these meetings. More than eight thousand enquirers were enrolled, and 835 new villages were entered where there are no Christians at present. More than six thousand definitely made decisions for Christ, and scores of these have already been baptised and received into the churches.

In addition to this movement in the South India United Church, an evangelistic campaign is already in progress in the centre of the great Church Mission field in Tinnevelly. The Syrian Christians of Travancore also are proposing a series of conventions with over 5000 Christians in each to prepare for an evangelistic campaign in that part of South India. Already Churches in Northern and Western India are considering entering into this great movement which bids fair soon to assume national proportions.

During the Writer's recent stay in France, he spent every available hour ashore with our brave Indian troops and with our friends who are with them. One godly Indian pastor sent the following message to the Christians of India. "Tell them that Jesus Christ is coming to work in power through the length and breadth of India. Tell them that there is but one hindrance to a mighty work of God in India. Tell them that we are the hindrance; we

Christians alone prevent this mighty work. God is ready, the non-Christians are needy. Let us prepare ourselves for the mighty work that Christ is about to do in our midst in India". I believe the message of this Indian leader is God's message to us today in this land Let us receive God's Christmas gift that we may give Him in all His fullness to India, and that we may see a mighty awakening first among the Christians and the Churches, and then among the non-Christians of India.

—SHERWOOD EDDY.

FIELD REPORTS

Bijapur : Mr. D. Prabudoss ;

He visited Lohagoan, Ittangi, Rampur, Hittinahalli, Hegatihal, Jumanal, Torvi, Uttnal, Kathakanahalli and Kannumuchanal villages. Bible study was conducted in Kathakanahalli and Kannumuchanal villages and with this, two youngsters, Mr. Vital B. A., and Mr. Basanaraj, have accepted Jesus Christ. Some people are willing to take baptism. Please pray for them.

Hussain Ganj (Lucknow) : Mr. Albert A. Lal (Hon.)

He worked among Muslims in Chouk (Hussainabad) and Kakori (Malihabad) but was faced with serious opposition. Although there are seekers, they do not agree for baptism. Let us pray for Lord's work in that region and also for Mr. Albert's protection.

Khamdong (Sikkim) : Mr. Daniel Bal

He visited villages including Benga Basty, Thang Singh Basty, and Dung Dung, and preached gospel, explaining the work of N.M.S. by showing wall maps. He also shared

gospel with the Dhakal Brahmins in Lingse village and with Mr. Dal Bahadur in Makka. The new converts, Messrs. Krishna Bhakta and Gouri Shanker are attending the Fellowship. People are eagerly coming to hear the Good News, and Mr. Rakbeer is one among them. The younger brother of his house-owner is attending the Bible Study with interest.

Let us pray for the above.

Kagal · Miss Vasantha Knmari David

She shared the gospel among the people in Soundalgar and Kurakli villages and distributed tracts to them. There is stiff opposition to gospel work in this area. Let us pray for her work and for the people to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Noliyasahi (Puri) : Mr. M. Daud Sagar

He reports that regular Bible Study and Prayer Meetings are being conducted and two old woman aged over 60 years are showing keen interest to accept the Lord and are willing to take baptism. Kindly pray for their faith and also for the work.

Puri : Rev. Paul Sanjeevi and Mr. G. A. Raju

They write that the N M S activities in Puri are going on smoothly. Revival meetings were conducted, and one of the Radio Speakers Rev. Paranjothi waved an inspiring message on "Christian Life." Nine of the eleven enquirers viz. K. Nova, K. Sathiyan, K. Samson, G. Rathinam, Thapithathurkkamma, Padmavathi, Neelachana Rao, Marthamma and Paramma, have taken baptism. More people are anxious to hear the Good News. Attendance to Church Service and NMS Schools is increasing. Women Fellowship, led by Mrs. Mariamma, is helping the sick and poor. Mrs. Mariamma is a witness to Church when she

became unconscious once and got miraculous healing after prayer by Rev. Paul Sanjeevi and Mr. G. A. Raju. Let us pray for the above new comers and for them and the work of NMS there and also for Mrs. Raju and child who are sick.

Gundalathur : Mrs. & Mr. S. V. Jayaraj Samuel

Their prayer requests are :

1) Smt. Unnamalai has no child, and there is no mutual understanding between her and her husband resulting in frequent quarrels, and they need peace.

2) Three students from Jamnamarathur School, Smt. Letchmi and her neighbours in Kiloor Village, and some youngsters in Jamnamarathur evinced interest in hearing the Gospel.

3) The people of Athipet are willing to hear the Good News but the frequent robberies, murders etc. taking place in the evenings now-a-days are causing a hindrance to them to come out of their houses to attend Bible Classes

Let us pray for the above and also for the students who attend Night Bible Classes.

Mrs. Saramma Jayaraj, Nurse, states that in Thekkumarathur village, one young lady was suffering from acute stomach ache and another lady from Jambody village who was in a serious condition had vomiting and diarrhoea and a child with a complaint of swelling all over the body were treated with medicines and prayer, and they got cured. The concerned families are having interest to hear the Good News. Let us pray for these families.

Jamnamarathur : Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakkam

Mr. Devairakkam reports that he could contact and preach gospel among the people who were in distress,

addicted to drugs and alcohol, injured due to lorry accident, those fear from enemies in their works, those who are in the habit of getting bribe, students who are interested to take baptism but are objected by their parents, and others. Let us pray :

1) For Durai, Shanthy and their children, Lakshmanan, Kuppu and their children, Peter's wife Chandra and children, Ponnuswamy's parents in Komutteri, who are interested to take baptism but are facing objections from their own people.

2) For the people who have taken baptism but have been facing obstacles in marriage, festivals, funerals etc.

3) For the hostel girls in Jamnamarathur and their parents to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

4) For Sri Murugan who was saved from a lorry accident in Jamnamarathur.

5) For the people who are suffering from chicken-pox.

6) For the alcohol-addicted Dharman and also Munusamy in Komuttery.

7) For Sri Raman in Markannur who has no children.

8) For the son of Sri Ganapathy, Teacher, Mamarathur, who is suffering from Polio and Sri Dharman who is suffering from whooping cough.

Kandili Karagapatty : Mrs. & Rev. A. Thiraviam

They were able to contact people in several villages and distributed tracts and gospel literature. Fasting Prayer Meetings are being conducted every Friday regularly and many families are attending these meetings, including 10 persons from Karyampatti village and Sister Amudha, and Menaka and her mother. It is proposed to conduct

Sunday Evening Service from 1987. Although Messrs. K. V. Kondappa Naidu, Rajammal, Murugesan and Dr. Kanagaraj were interested to take baptism, they could not be baptised because of stiff opposition from the villagers. Miss Vasuki's father is a drunkard. Let us pray for these people to have faith in Jesus Christ.

OBITUARY

Miss Jessie Moses

Miss Jessie Moses, the former Principal of the Bain School, Madras, and Correspondent of the C.S.I. Hr. Sec. Schools of the Madras Diocese had her home call on 17th Dec. 1986. She was hospitalized for a week. She was 65 years old.

She was not only an educationalist but woman of prayer. She was involved in the church and Missionary work. While she was the Principal of the Bain School, she encouraged the teachers and Staff members of the school to contribute for missionary work, particularly for the work of the N.M.S. The school teachers and staff continue to support the work.

Miss Moses was invited to speak at the Madras City Area Committee's thanks giving service on 6th Dec. 1986, where she spoke about the little boy who gave the five loaves and two fish to Jesus, with which Jesus was able to feed more than 5,000 people. She also said referring Oswald J. Smith of Toronto, Canada that "we have no right to hear the gospel a second time before people have not heard it even once" She emphasized the need of sharing and sparing our resources and talents for the sake of gospel.

She is survived by her aged mother, and her brethren and their children.

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Mr. Heera Singh

Mr. Heera Singh of Madras had his home call on 21st Dec. 1986. He was a praying and supporting member of the N.M.S. He had opened his house for the N.M.S. friends in Madras to meet together for prayer and fellowship. He is survived by his wife, children and grand children. He was 81 years old. He was the Manager at the office of the Registrar of the Madras University.

The Rev. Dr. A. N, Gopal

The Rev. Dr. A. N. Gopal of Guntur had his home call on 5-12-1986 at the age of 74.

He was the Principal of the Lutheran Theological College, Rajahmundry, during 1956-1958, and Principal of the Voorheese College, Vellore during 1961-71. After his retirement he served in the Andhra Christian Theological College, and as the Registrar of the Hindustan Bible Institute.

He was the Chairman of the Federation of the Lutheran Churches. He served in the N.M S. Executive for the last several years till his death. Evangelism, the Mission of the Church, was his sole concern. He was present at the last Executive Committee of the N.M.S. which was held at the Voorhese College in Vellore from 21st to 23rd of Nov. 1986, where he spoke about the mission of the church and chaired a session.

He is survived by his wife, 4 children and grand children.

May the Lord grant comfort and consolation to the bereaved members of these families.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600002

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The National Missionary Society of India
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MEDITATION

PETER IN THE GOSPEL

PETER DENIES JESUS

John 18: 15-18, 25-27 ; Mathew 26: 69-75 ;
Mark 14: 66-72; Luke 22: 55-62.

(Today's English Version)

Peter was rebuked by Jesus for his action in cutting the ear of the High Priest's servant and yet he continued to stay with the group and followed Jesus. When he was led away to the High Priest's palace for questioning. there were only two of the disciples who followed Jesus. (John 18:15). John had free access to the palace.

Peter was identified thrice : Since John was known to the High Priest, he had freedom in going out and coming in. Peter was outside the gate and John spoke to the girl at the gate and brought Peter inside the palace While he was being brought inside, the girl at the gate identified Peter as the one who was with Jesus.

"Are not you also one of the disciples of that man?" (Vs. 17). Escaping from the girl who was at the gate he wanted to warm himself, as the night was cold, where he was identified again by others and asked the question "Aren't you also one of the disciples of that man ?" (Vs. 25).

He was identified as the one who was with Jesus by a relative of the man whose ear was cut off by Peter and spoke to him saying "Didn't I see you with Him in the garden? (Vs. 26) People who went for Jesus in the garden had found Peter with Jesus People were able to identify the man who was with Jesus, in different ways. All the three identified him as the one with Jesus. They had observed his life, his talk his behaviour etc. It is natural to misunderstand and misjudge people, but here the

people have found Peter as the one who was with Jesus. How often people identify you and me as the one who follows Jesus.

Peter denied thrice : Peter had the inner intention to follow Jesus as he had repeatedly assured Jesus. Otherwise he would have fled along with other disciples. When their master was led away, he wanted to see what will happen to Jesus. Being in the group of the enemies, he did not want to acknowledge his affiliation with Jesus.

He might have the fear that he too be arrested, along with Jesus. This shows he was not firm in his decision to follow Jesus. What he had confessed for and about Jesus in the past, had no validity. The decisions made to follow and live for Jesus were broken down when Jesus was led away.

Very firmly he said "No, I am not" (Vs. 17b)
"No, I am not" (Vs. 25b)
"No, (Vs. 27)

Under the adverse circumstances, Peter affirmed that he had no connection whatsoever with Jesus.

How dare was Peter in denying his Master at a time when his Master was facing trial. He had done this even though Jesus had given him a warning that he will deny Him (Mat. 26: 31-34, Mk. 14: 27-31, Lk, 22: 31-34, John 13: 36-38). How often we, His followers, do not heed to the warnings given by Him, and we also say like Peter we will not stumble and fall back. Peter had his fall as Jesus predicted.

Peter in repentance : While he was denying Jesus, he heard the cock crowing, which reminded of his Master's warning. God used the cock to remind Peter of his failure, God used the donkey to speak to Balaam (Numb, 22: 22-33). Here as Jesus had predicted, Peter heard the cock crowing. When he heard it, he remembered of what Jesus had told. He was alert to the Voice of God even though he denied Him. Our alertness to the Voice of God

makes us to repent of our past life. Except John, all the other Gospel writers make mention of the repentance Peter had. "And he broke down and cried" (Mark 14: 72b). "He went out and wept bitterly" (Mt. 26: 74b, Lk. 22: 62).

He admitted his folly and repented for that. He did not take it as a casual incident, but took it very seriously and wept bitterly. Are we willing to admit and weep for our carelessness and our casual way of expressions by which we have denied Him ?

What we need today is the experience of repentance, because many a times we have denied our Master. We have deliberately denied Him Let us not take it for granted that the Lord will forgive. We read the prayers for forgiveness but we do not confess our sins and repent for them, particularly for our failure in witnessing Him. "Saying I also belong to Him and He is my Master." Will we say that?

J. M. JAYASINGH.

N.M.S. KANCHIPURAM BRANCH

In the Committee Meeting held on 1—2—1987 in the CSI Christ Church, Kanchipuram, the following members were elected as Office-bearers of the N.M.S. Kanchipuram Branch :

President	:	Rev. J. Stanley Bower
Vice President	:	Mr. S. Athisayam Vedamani
Secretary	:	Mr. I. Daniel
Rural Secretary	:	Mr. P. Kanikaraj
Joint Secretary	:	Mr. S. Yesupatham.

Steering Committee

1. Mrs. Thomas
2. Mrs. Jeevavaram
3. Mr. C. Thangiah
4. Mr. Jason Jeyaraj
5. Mr. Muthiaraj
6. Mr. Dhanasingh
7. Mr. S. Arulanandan
8. The Headmaster, Little Kanchipuram, CSI Middle School.
9. The Headmaster, Big Kanchipuram, CSI Middle School.
10. The Headmaster, Central Kanchipuram, CSI Middle School.

We are thankful to God for the involvement of these members in the work of N.M.S. May the Lord bless this Committee and congregation for their efforts and activities for His glory.

LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Miss Kokila Rebecca—On 31st Jan. 1987 myself and my wife visited her. She is still in bed. Your earnest prayers are solicited.

Let us pray that the Lord may touch and heal her and restore her back to normal health to be a living witness in Jawadhi Hills. Thanks to the Doctors and staff in C. M. C. hospital for their medical care. I am also thankful to the friends for praying and raising funds for the medical help.

Your kind contributions for the medical help of the N M S. workers may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, N M.S. of India, stating as "N M.S. Workers Emergency Medical Fund".

Office staff retreat : The N M.S. office staff retreat took place from 23rd—26th Jan. 1987 at Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills. Mr. & Mrs Prince of the Child Evangelism gave the leadership at the retreat. The Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah was also with us. I could not participate in the retreat due to Miss Kokila's accident though I wished very much. (A short report is published elsewhere in this issue).

Retreat for evangelists in North India and Organising Secretaries : A retreat is being planned to take

place in Jhansi for the N M.S. workers in North India and the Organising Secretaries from 26th—29th March 1987. About 60 participants are expected to meet together, which includes the wives of the evangelists in North India. This needs your prayer and financial help.

Another retreat has to be planned for the ones serving in the South.

Another term : God enabled me to begin another term of service in the N.M S. from Ist of Feb. 1987. When I took over the work as the General Secretary on the Ist of Feb. 1981, I had to face several problems and God helped the N.M S. to have victories from several of them. Thank God. As the Society is on the onward move, your earnest prayers are requested.

As I look back, God has taught me many a good lessons through the circumstances and people in the N.M.S. which I acknowledge with gratefulness to God.

May I request you to pray for me, Office bearers of the N.M S., Organising Secretaries, Evangelists and Office staff, to continue to do their best for His glory. We need His strength to face the problems in the work.

Our Country : We learn from the dailies of the terrorism, killings in Punjab and elsewhere happening in our country. Let us fall down at the Throne of Grace and ask God to have mercy upon our Nation and He may grant the needed wisdom to the leaders of our Nation.

Examinations : Our children will be writing their annual examinations and I wish and pray that the Lord our God may grant them the wisdom, strength and courage to write the exams.

We are called : We are called to re-dedicate ourselves for the extension of His Kingdom in this land of ours with our talents.

We are not called to serve Organisations, but to serve God through Organisations

May God enable us to serve God through N.M.S. and bring honour and glory to Him.

Thanking you.

Yours in His Service,

J. M. JAYASINGH.

RURAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

The Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp will be held from 22nd to 31st May 1987 at Jamnamarathur in Jawadi Hills.

For details, please contact :—

The General Secretary,
NATIONAL MISSIONARY
SOCIETY OF INDIA,
206, Peters Road,
ROYAPETTAH,
MADRAS-600 014.

Maximum number of participants will be 50.

FIELD REPORT

1. Mrs. & Mr. Andrews, Jawadi Hills, PUDUR NADU

He writes that the Lord enabled him to preach the Gospel in Pudur Nadu and the surrounding villages and he was able to preach the Gospel to 84 persons during the month. Out of 84 persons, 14 have confessed Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Please continue to pray for this ministry, especially pray for the new believers, so that God may touch and lead them, and glorify His name.

2. Mrs. & Mr. Prabudoss, BIJAPUR

He visited the village called Dhandargi and conducted a Bible study at the residence of a believer where eight people attended it. One of them Mr. Murali, a student of Engineering accepted Jesus as his personal Saviour. Please pray for Mrs. Rukubai who was wonderfully relieved from the evil spirit and also for her husband to be steadfast in their faith. Both of them are from Rampure village.

3. Mr. & Mrs. M. C. Mittra and Mr. J. George, LUCKNOW

These workers have been newly appointed from 1st Jan. 1987. They are facing several problems in the field especially in securing accommodation. They are now working in a place called Mallihabad. People of this village are not showing much interest to hear the word of God. Please pray for the salvation of the people of that village. Also remember these new evangelists in your prayers that they involve God's plan in whatever way they do.

4. Mr. P. Moses and Mr. K. P. Jacob BIHARSHARIF

Bihar Sharif is the new place of their work on their transfer from Basai. They write that the Lord has enabled them to come to the new Mission field and start their work. They have expressed that the Lord is leading them and guiding them in their work. Praise to the Lord.

Their prayer requests are :

1. To reach the Hindus and Muslims of this village and surrounding villages with the gospel. And also for God's grace to learn the local language.
2. Pray for their health.
3. For God's wisdom to reach the unreached people in a quick and meaningful method.

5. Mr. Godfrey B. Soans, HEBRI

He visited four villages during the month viz, Santhekatte, Kaleel, Hothurke Albady and Seethanadi. He was able to present the gospel to more than 100 persons in those villages. Most of them are Hindus. Please uphold them in your prayers, so that they may come to the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus.

6. Mr. William Soundaraj & Mr. John Soundarajan, NADANUR

Please pray for their work in Nadanur village and especially for Mr. Mani, Mr. Kumarasamy, and Mr. Appasamy who are ready to witness the Lord by taking Baptism.

7. Rev. Paul Sanjeevi & Mr. G. A. Raju, PURI

They write that their work is going on smoothly in spite of many opposition in the field. Please remember them in your prayers especially for Mr. Ramana, our teacher in the Primary School and his family who are willing to take Baptism in the 2nd week of February.

8. Mr. P. Devairakkam, JAMNAMARATHUR

He writes that the Lord is giving His grace to preach the gospel among people who are facing many problems. He has requested to pray for :

1. Miss Kokila Rebecca, the warden of Jawadi Tribal Girls Hostel who met with an accident and is under-going treatment in CMC, Vellore to restore normal health.
2. Mr. Gopal and family to accept the Lord and be steadfast in their faith.
3. Mr. Anbunathan and family for Lord's Peace.
4. Mr. Ponnusamy's parents to accept the Lord as a whole family.
5. Safe delivery to Mrs. Mani's wife in Pazhankottai.
6. Mr. Krishnan, Kuppu, Chinnaraj, who heard the gospels eagerly at a meeting, to accept the Lord as their Saviour.
7. Mr. Kannan, Mr. Muthu and Mr. Annamalai of Koilandur to accept the Lord as Savjour,
8. Mr. Kannan of Pakkumudaynoor who testified that the Lord has given his wife a safe delivery and to accept the Lord as a family.

9. Mr. Govindaraj of Valli Kottai for complete deliverance from sickness.

9. Mrs. &. Mr. Robert John, VEERAPPANUR

They visited 16 villages during the month. Through their fervant prayers a few people have received Lord's wonderful deliverance from sickness.

Request to pray for :

1) a greater ministry throughout 1987 and as a result a group of people must come to know the Lord in a more personal way.
2) a Church to worship at Veerappanur N.M.S. Mission field.

10. Mrs. & Mr. M. Jesudoss, KALYANAMANTHAI

They write that by the grace of God, they were able to present the gospel to about 1000 people during the month of January.

Request to pray for :

1) The young girls who are so eager to hear the Word of God, so that they can accept the Lord as their Lord and Saviour.
2) the sick people who have received wonderful deliverance from the Lord may accept the Lord as their Saviour.
3) the two boys undergoing theological studies, in order that they may be able to stand an effective witness for the Lord.

11. Miss Salina Rakha, LUDHIANA

She conducted open air preachings and also contacted people at their residence and presented the gospel. She requests to pray for a lady who was suffering from an issue of blood, received wonderful deliverance from her sickness and has now accepted the Lord and is steadfast in her faith.

12. Rev. R. R. Vyas and Mr. V. C. Devanesan, Chakarpur, M. P.

They report that their work is going on smoothly by the grace of God. They visited the village Khailas and preached the word of God and many people responded positively. One of them named Hussian Khan is much interested to hear about Christ. Please pray for his salvation.

13. Miss Vasantha Kumari, Kagal, MAHARASHTRA

She visited Kagal, Sangav, Pottenkudi, Kurli and some other villages, distributed tracts and conducted prayer meetings. As a

result, a few families, have accepted the Lord. Please pray for their spiritual growth.

14. Mr. Daud Sagar, Noliyasahi, ORISSA

He writes that by the grace of God the work in that area is going on smoothly.

Request to pray for:

1) an old woman aged 75 who is willing to accept the Lord.

2) a certain well-educated man of that area who are interested to hear more about Lord Jesus.

15. Mr. Victor Maurice Robinson, U. P. & BIHAR

He has given a brief report about the work of the N.M.S. in U. P. and Bihar.

a) **Barabanki, U. P.**

In this district there are three Churches, but there is no centre for N.M.S. work. Please pray for opening a centre there in order that many people may come to know the Lord in the days to come.

b) **Faizabad, U. P.**

Here exists one CNI Church. Pray for Rev. Iqbal Ocasih, the Pastor of the Church and the N. M. S. work of that district. Please also pray for the retreat and other meetings which are to be held during this month.

c) **Sitapur**

In this place there is a N.M.S. branch which is dormant. Pray to God for sending a proper person to carry on the work there.

d) **Unnao, U. P.**

Please pray for the work of this Mission field especially for the convention and retreat. They are planning to conduct in the month of May.

e) **Rae Bareli U. P.**

The work of this mission field is at a standstill. Please pray to God for a good worker in order that many people may come to the Lord as their Saviour.

f) **Kanpur**

In Kanpur, the N.M.S. work is going on very well. Please pray for those who are involved in the N.M.S. work there, in order that they may do it more effectively and win many souls for Christ.

N.M.S. HEADQUARTERS STAFF RETREAT

The above retreat was held at the N.M.S. House, Jamnamarathur, from 23rd to 26th January, 1987. All the staff participated. Mr. S. Prince, National Director of Child Evangelism Fellowship of India. Bangalore, conducted the retreat. His wife taught biography of some great men of God who sacrificed their lives in proclaiming the Gospel. She also conducted retreat to the Hostel girls.

As Miss Kokila Rebecca, Warden of the Tribal Girls Hostel, met with an accident on 23rd January, there was some difficulty, but with God's blessings, there was no disruption in the programme. The topics mainly dealt with prayer, Bible study, fellowship, stewardship, etc.

The Staff members were delighted to have the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, Vice President of N.M.S. in their midst, who advised the responsibility of Christians and the social evils in Christianity including second baptism.

They had also an opportunity in visiting the nearby centres of N.M.S. through open-air and prayer meetings.

The staff who attended this remarked that this was very useful to them in sharing their responsibility in

a Missionary Organisation which proclaims the God's message to the people of unreached areas. They feel that such retreats should be organised often, which will enrich them in their spiritual life.

OBITUARY

The Rt. Rev. Jeevanandam Thangamuthu : Bishop J. Thangamuthu had his Home Call on the early morning of 8th February 1987 after a massive heart attack the previous evening. Bishop was born on 15th June 1927. He took up full time ministry in 1958 and was consecrated as the Bishop in Coimbatore Diocese on 18—12—1972. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Rajamani Thangamuthu and four children.

While he was the Presbyter of the Immanuel Church in Coimbatore, he made the members to contribute for the work of the Society through the Church Offertory envelopes by marking a special column for N. M. S. When he became Bishop, he invited me to speak about N.M.S. at the Diocesan Council. He was the Patron of the N.M.S. Branch in Coimbatore since the time he became the Bishop. He encouraged the Presbyters and members in his Diocese to contribute for the work of N.M.S.

We pray God for his life and witness, and we express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and members of the Diocese.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

Regd. No. M. 609
Licence No. 23 Licenced to post without pre-payment

ADVERTISEMENTS

SITUATION VACANT

Wanted Principal for Alexendera Girls High School, Church of North India, Amritsar. Age 45/50 maximum with experience of fifteen years in English Medium High/Higher Secondary School. Qualification M.A., B.Ed. Salary depending upon qualification and experience. Accommodation free. Only members of the Church of North India or Churches in communion with it need apply before 15th of March 198 to Bishop Anand Chandu Lal, Diocesan Community Conference Centre, 26, Rai Bahadur Parkash Chand Road, Amritsar-143 001.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The following music instruments are taught by the above School. Classes will be conducted from 1—5—87 to 1—6—87 in the morning and evening in batches. For prospectus, please send Rs. 5/- by Money Order to Mr. A. Sven Peter, Director, Summer School of Music, 38, Veteran Lines, Pallavaram, Madras-600 043.

Organ, Casio, Yamaha, Technic Keyboards, Guitar, Classical Guitar, Trumpet, Piano, Accordian, Harmonium (Carnatic), Mandolin and Drums.

CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF INDIA

40th Anniversary Training Camp

A rare chance to those who are working in the Child Evangelism.

Organiser : Child Evangelism Fellowship of India

Date : 15th April 1987 to 10th May 1987

Venue : Goodwill Girls High School, Bangalore.

Medium : Tamil

For details, kindly contact :

Mr. S. Prince,
National Director,
Child Evangelism Fellowship of India,
15, Hall Road, Richards Town,
Bangalore-560 005.

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The National Missionary Society of India
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600014. Telephone : 87314

MEDITATION

PETER IN THE GOSPELS

Mathew 28:10; Mark 16:7; Luke 24:9~12; John 20:1~10.

PETER AT THE EMPTY TOMB

Peter was seen "Cried and went out" from the High Priests Palace campus There was no mention of Peter after that until the women folk informed the disciples about the resurrection of Jesus.

The disciples did not follow their Master, as He was tortured and judged for crucification. They were afraid of what will happen even to them. There was a close watch about the ones who were with Him. e.g. Peter was questioned by the servants who led him to deny his being with Jesus.

Yet a group followed tracking their Master's footsteps and Jesus was concerned about them (Luke 23:27~28). They were women, a group of faithful followers. They were willing to face any situation. They were crying for their Master, but the disciples who were with Him for about three and half years were not seen anywhere. Time and again the history of the Church has proved that women stood firm in their faith and followed Christ.

They knew the place, where Jesus' body was buried, because they went with Joseph, who took His body and buried. (Luke 23:55).

It is also noted that the women prepared themselves to put spices and perfumes on the body of Jesus (Lk. 23·56). As we read in the passages, they were at the garden where Jesus' body was buried and that too early in the morning A group of fearless women. The fear they had about the

surroundings, people and circumstances vanished for the love of their Master.

Peter the spokesman for Christ who witnessed Him, who expressed himself in following Christ, and who fought for Jesus at the garden was not seen anywhere. The question comes to our mind why was he not seen at the crucification site? Why was he away and not taking over the body of Jesus? Where was he? All these questions arise in a person's mind, who meditate on the relationship between Peter and Jesus.

It is definite that he was filled with fear and that is why he denied Jesus, when he was asked. Are you not one with Jesus? He was filled with fear-complex in his heart and mind.

It is also certain that he was ashamed to identify himself with Jesus when Jesus was taken to the High Priest and questioned. Peter was expecting Jesus as the messianic King, who will rule, but now He is a prisoner and he did not want to identify because of shame. His expectation of Jesus was not fulfilled as he expected. The surrender of Jesus to the soldiers was beyond his human understanding.

It is also reasonable that Peter did not want to surrender himself to the soldiers and others, but wanted to escape. As noted in the previous issue, Peter broke down and went out, because all things have happened in him as Jesus predicted. He was ashamed of his own weakness: He was ashamed because, he could not live upto the expectation of Jesus. He wept bitterly for his inability to be with Jesus. He could not stand with Jesus in His sufferings. This seems to be the main reason why Peter was not seen anywhere until the women informed about Jesus.

The women were told at the first day of the week to get back and inform the resurrection news to His disciples. (read the passages). The women knew where Peter and others were. They informed Peter and others about the resurrection of Jesus.

When Peter heard the news of Triumph, though unbelieving ran to the tomb and as the Gospel writers observe, Peter was the first one to get into the tomb and do the verification. He got into the empty tomb, where Jesus was buried. Peter appeared again on the scene. Here a breakthrough begins. Now he is at the empty tomb.

Peter was informed of the resurrection news by the woman who followed Christ bearing all the shame and sufferings. If we are prepared to bear the shame and sufferings for the sake of Christ, with Him we will have the privilege of carrying the message of His resurrection.

HE LIVES

HE LIVES TO REIGN

HE LIVES TO BE WITH US.

Will we bear the shame and sufferings for Him?

J. M. JAYASINGH.

(A series of meditation was started on the life of Peter in June 1983 and it is concluded here. The first one was from John 21: where Peter was met by his Master. It is planned to bring this series as a small booklet and it will be informed to you through the N.M.I. about its availability)

Letter from the General Secretary

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Visits :

After having attended the N.C.C.I. General Body Meeting, I proceeded to 'Belghana', one of our Mission Stations in M.P. Mr. F. S. Charles the Organising Secretary for M P. and Rajasthan joined me in these visits. Belghana and Tenganmuda are two stations close by on the Railway route between Pentra road and Bilaspur which is primarily a jungle area surrounded by a number of villages. Our new Evangelists Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel and Mr. Benjamin Sagar are covering quite a number of villages in and around Tenganmuda and Belghana.

Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel are partially supported by the St. John's Church at Bangalore. The National Missionary Society Branch in Kailasapuram in Trichy has come forward to support the work of Mr. Benjaman Sagar.

We had the privilege of contacting the village leader in Belghana who was opposing the Gospel work in that area. Praise to Lord, he and another teacher have promised to help our evangelists.

On the way to Lucknow we stopped for a few hours in Allahabad where we were able to meet Rev. Paul Das and his wife. We also had the privilege of having fellowship of Mr. Arthur V. Singh and his family.

At Lucknow Mr. Victor Maurice Robinson had organised prayer meetings, visits to different Christians and Churches and also to meet the branch to discuss about the work in that area. On Sunday we were able to con-

tact a few Churches where the N.M.S. Evangelists of Lukkimpurkheri and Mallihabad presented their work in the Church Services. Mr. Arthur V. Singh also joined the team in Lucknow. Retiring offertory was taken in almost all the Churches where we preached. The branch meeting was shared by Mr. M M. Maxton, President of Lucknow branch. While returning we were able to meet the Jhansi branch leaders particularly the Rev Eric Lal, the Dean of the C.N.I. Churches in Jhansi. The branch leaders in Jhansi helped us in organising the North India N.M.S. Workers retreat in Jhansi from 26 to 29th March 1987.

Retreat:

The North India N.M.S. Workers retreat was held at the Yellow Church in Jhansi from 26 to 29th March 1987. All except two evangelists attended the retreat. The main theme was "VISION AND RESPONSIBILITY". The following were the leaders: Rev. Vasantharaj Albert of the Church Growth Research Centre, Madras, Mr. D. W. Herbert of Tanjore, Mr. V. G William of Madras, Mr. & Dr. Mrs. Arthur V. Singh of Allahabad and Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, General Secretary.

The inaugural function of the retreat was conducted by the Rev Eric Lall, Dean, as the Chairman and Mr. R. N. Singh, Principal of Christian Inter College of Jhansi. The local friends raised part of the food expenditure and gave leadership in arranging the accommodation and other needed facilities for the retreat. We thank God for the branch Chairman the Rev. Eric Lall and Mr. A. B. David, Branch Secretary for their leadership in work. We also thank God for the team members who worked with Mr. A. B. David. Mrs. Thomas donated Rs. 600/- to purchase a cycle for the work in Tenganmuda. The school authorities had closed the school for the retreat. Thanks to them.

The local branch organised four evening Public meetings from 26th to 29th March 1987 in which the General

Secretary preached the word of God and Mr. Regi Moses from Jhansi interpreted for him.

Involvement of the N.M.S. Workers :

The N.M.S. Evangelists and the Organising Secretaries who participated at the retreat at Jhansi contributed Rs. 605/- for the retreat of the N.M.S. workers in South India. The yhave also decided to contribute Rs. 24,000/- for repairing the present office building and this was a voluntary step from the evangelists.

We are taking steps to repair the present office building which may cost about Rupees two lakhs. The detailed plan and estimate will be submitted for your consideration in one of the coming issues of the N.M.I. during the year.

Standing Committee :

The month of April began with the Standing Committee to pass the budget and to revise the scale of pay of the N M.S. employees. We are happy to inform you that the Standing Committee has decided to revise the scale of pay of the employees of the Society from 1st of April 1987. The Budget for the year 1987-88 will be for Rs. 15 lakhs. We look to God for the supply of the needed funds.

Miss Kokila Rebecca :

As per the latest information received Miss Kokila Rebecca's health has improved and we request you to pray for her in order that her health may be restored back to normal. Please continue to pray for her.

Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp :

The Rural Christian Service Fellowship Camp will be held at Jamnamarathur from 22nd to 31st May 1987. This is meant for the college students. Please pray that the Lord may supply the needed funds for the camp and

the campers who will be participating may find the will of God in their lives.

Examinations :

Some of our children are writing their examinations during this month. We wish and pray that the Lord may enable them to do their best and to pass in their examinations.

Miraculous Escape :

The Rev. & Dr. Theodore Williams had a miraculous escape from the car accident he met with recently. The Lord saved the whole family except one. We praise God for saving the Williams.

Easter :

Another Easter has dawned upon us. May the Living Lord continue to speak to the Christians in our Country to proclaim His Good News to the people of our country. It is time for us to open our mouths and make proclamations about our Living Lord. There is a tendency not to speak of our Lord Jesus Christ and we also hear people say "Christians presence" will be enough. If we are Christians, we ought to speak about Him to others because it is His command. Let the spirit of God strengthen each one of us to make proclamations about the Living and Loving Lord Jesus Christ.

May the Living Lord be with you.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

FIELD REPORTS

1. Mr. P. Moses, Mr. K. P. Jacob and Mr. Bikram Barik Biharsharif, Bihar :

They have visited the following villages.

Kashochak : They preached the gospel in this village. There was a good response. Please pray for Sunanthan Prasad who heard the gospel and professed that "Jesus is Living", and also for Regunathan Prasad who heard the message with his family, to accept the Lord as their Lord and Saviour.

Chajjoo—Mohalla : Here their main work is among Muslims. They distributed tracts and New Testaments in that area. Please pray for Dr. Ansari, a Medical Practioner—showing interest to hear the word of God to accept the Lord as his Saviour.

Bichili Kandak : In this place there is a students Hostel, and at a Gospel Meeting, 7 students and a family came forward to hear the word of God. Please pray for them and for Mr. Prasad Akalay, an editor and publisher of a weekly to accept the Lord as his Saviour. Also pray for Sunil Kumar, a student of Nalanda College, who accepted the word of God and wants to be a follower of Jesus. They request to pray for :

1) Ministry among Hindus and Muslims especially among children and youth.

2) Mr. Swamp Kumar, a student who is regularly attending the worship service and also for other enquirers.

They are working among the staunch Hindus and Muslims. They presented gospel and tracts. About 17 persons listened the word of God carefully and a few of them started studying the word of God with much interest. Please pray for God's touch in their life.

2. Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Puri :

Regular cottage prayer meetings, Sunday School and worship service are conducted in this place.

Three persons have taken Baptism namely :

1. Vicar Ramana 2. Mrs. Kamala 3. Joga.

Please pray for the above people to be fervent in their faith, and also pray for the Christians who are facing some problems and for the 12 enquirers who are willing to accept the Lord as their Saviour.

3. Mrs. & Mr. Robert John, Veerapanoor :

They visited 10 villages during this month and preached the gospel. The Lord has given wonderful deliverance to their children who were suffering from Chicken-pox, and also the children of some believers. The non-Christians of that village were astonished at the wonder working power of the Lord Jesus.

Pray for :

1) God's healing touch to an evangelist who is having frequent chest pain.

2) A worship place to come and attend the worship service regularly.

3) Electricity connection needed to conduct Night School.

4. Mr. K. Vijayam & Mr. I. John Arthur, Kattian Kudisai:

They write that they were able to do the Lord's work in a very systematic way during this month. They made personal Evangelism and also conducted open-air preach-

ings. About 100 people attended the meeting with a real thirst to hear the word of God. Please pray for them.

5. Mr. D. Prabhu Doss, Bijapur:

He visited Hittinahalli Village and conducted Bible Study. As a result of this, a few persons are ready for Baptism. Please uphold them in your prayers.

He also visited Jumanal and Uttnal villages, met people at their houses, presented the Gospel and conducted Bible studies. A few persons accepted the Lord in Jumanal village, and a few persons in the Uttnal village are ready to witness the Lord in Baptism. Please pray for them.

6. Mr. E. F. Bernad Shaw, Thongumalai:

He writes that the Lord has enabled him to visit several places for the sake of the gospel during the month. Many people understood the necessities of the missionary's movements when he spoke in the Churches and with individuals.

Please pray for:

1. Mr. Ramasamy to restore his eye-sight.
2. Mr. Govindasamy's son to speak.

7. Mrs. & Mr. M. Jesudoss, Kalyanamanthai;

They visited 9 villages and preached gospel. Visited more than 20 houses. In Northamathur village Mr. Palani and his wife Unnamalai, accepted Christ. Palani is a T.B. Patient. After sincere prayers he is getting better.

In Clumna Kottai, and Northamathur Village a few people are ready for Baptism.

Please pray for :

1. Mr. Annamalai and his family who open their house for prayer.

2. Mrs. Chittai of Kalyanamanthai, who is ready to take baptism.

3. Mr. Annamalai's son Mr. Raman, who offered 1 Kg. honey for the Lord's work and is willing to know the Lord in a more personal way.

8. Mr. & Mrs. K. Mahimadas, Gangavaram A.P. :

They are doing Lord's work among the tribals of Gangavaram. As a result of the work, a few persons have baptised and a few are ready to be baptised shortly.

Please pray for their work among the tribals and also pray for their needs, especially for a cycle, Megaphone, Joller and Band.

9. Mr. P. Babu Karunia Giri, Thongumalai :

Pray and praise God that he was able to cover 12 villages during this month. About 120 persons had the privilege to hear the word of God. Also a few persons have received Lord's divine healing when he prayed for the sick.

10, Mr. Stephen Purushothaman, Kulathupuzha :

He was conducting prayer meetings at the residence of Mr. Panchavarnnana very frequently. As a result, the whole family came to salvation and was baptised by the Bishop Rt. Rev. Yesudasan and became members of the Church. Please pray for their spiritual growth. Please also pray for Mrs. Nagamma's family as they are willing to accept the Lord and especially pray for her husband who is suffering on paralysis.

11. Mr. & Mrs. T. Pappachan, Kulathupuzha :

They report that they have contacted 373 people and presented the Gospel and also distributed Tracts during the month.

Please pray for :

1. Mr Rajappan's family as they have witnessed the Lord through Baptism to be steadfast in their faith.

2. Saroja, the sister of Mr. Panchavarnam who has accepted the Lord recently to be a witness for the Lord.

3. The families of Jeevarani and Vijayakumari who are facing some problems and seek for peace.

12. Mr. I. Sampath James and M. M. Skariachan, Lukkimpurkeri (U.P:) :

They write that the Lord has enabled them to present the gospel to a group of young people who have been talking about "Hindu purana". They all listened the word of God. Some of them who have already heard the gospel before, are still interested to know more about Jesus. Please pray for Mr. Vijayakumar who accepted the Lord as his Saviour and ready for Baptism.

13. Mr. William Soundararaj and Mr. John Soundararaj, Nadanur :

They visited 15 villages and conducted open-air preaching at three places. Many people responded. Please pray for these students namely Mr. Mani, Mr. Kumarsamy and Mr. Appasamy who accepted the Lord a few months ago to stand firm in their faith.

14. Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Gunasekar, Mr. T Ignatius and Mrs. Jane Shafiq Masih, Basai :

They visited many houses of that area during the month along with the new believer Mr. Ram Singh who gave his testimony. They also had an opportunity to preach the gospels to thousands cheering a Meal at Basai. Please pray for them.

15. Rev. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam, Kandili Karagapatty :

This year they have concentrated on 13 villages of that area, visiting the houses and presenting the gospel very often. The people are hearing the word of God with a real thirst. Praise God for the wonderful deliverence given to Mr. Murugan who was suffering from sickness for the past 6 years with their fervent prayer. Please also pray for the 6 persons who are willing to take Baptism

16. Mrs. & Mr. Jayaraj Samuel, Gundalathur :

They visited Thekkumarathur village and there they met 2 persons and told them the word of God. Both are Government Employees. Please pray for their salvation. Praise the Lord for His divine healing granted unto a boy in the same village, who had vomiting and diarrhoea with their fervent prayers.

17. Mr. M. P. Andrews, Pudur Nadu :

They visited 10 villages and preached the word of God. They also distributed gospel portions house to house. A few people have received God's divine healing while they prayed for.

18. Mr. P. A. Charles, Allery :

He contacted 72 persons during the month and presented the gospel. There was a good response among them. Please pray for their salvation.

19. Mr. P. Devairakkam, Jamnamarathur :

During the month he visited 15 villages and preached the gospel.

Please pray for :

1. God's everlasting peace to reign in Smt. Rajeswari, a School Teacher and her family members who are living without peace.

2. Mr. Gopal to surrender his life to the Lord completely.

3. For God's wonderful deliverence to a boy Swaminathan, who met with a car accident.

20. Miss Vasantha Kumari David, Kagal Maharashtra:

The Lord enabled her to start the work in 3 villages namely VHOONNOR, HOOPRI and BONGE.

HOOPRI : One family is showing genuine interest to hear the gospel.

BONGE : One potter's family heard the gospel message with much interest.

VHOONNOOR : Contacted 2 families and presented the gospel.

Please pray for the salvation of the above families, especially pray for the boy Ramadoss who accepted the Lord as his Saviour.

N.M.S. Trichur Branch (KERALA)

The first NMS Branch Committee was formed in Trichur during Jan. 87 and the following members were elected as Office-bearers of that branch.

President ~ Rev. A. J. John CSI Pastor, Trichur

Vice-President-Rev. Philip Easo, Marthoma Church, Trichur

Secretary and Treasurer ~ Mr. P. J. Joseph, CSI Church, Urakom

Committee members — Prof. C. K. Varghese, Mr. K. Jacob, Mrs. Saramma Thomas and Sr. Glory Jyothi

We are thankful to God for the involvement of these members in the work of NMS. May the Lord bless this Committee and Congregation for their efforts and activities for His glory.

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY

206, PETERS ROAD, ROYAPETTAH

Income and Expenditure Account for the

EXPENDITURE

		Rs.	P.
To	Salary & allowances	4,28,706	40
„	Travelling Expenses	45,997	34
„	Committees & Conferences	36,752	50
„	Postage	17,494	81
„	Collection Expenses & Bank Charges	11,027	31
„	Electricity Charges	3,731	95
„	Christmas Cheers to Workers	19,873	35
„	North India Workers Camp	861	30
„	Youth & Seekers Camp	850	00
„	Telephone	3,072	60
„	Printing of Journals : NMI, Deepikai, Hindi Bulletin & Vartha Pathrika	66,319	00
„	Other Printing Charges	16,829	87
„	Repairs & Maintenance	7,006	30
„	Taxes	1,139	90
„	Rent	290	00
„	Stationary	7,988	44
„	Other Payment to Workers	5,204	91
„	Legal Expenditure	600	00
„	Audit Fee	500	00
„	Miscellaneous	6,124	96
„	Jawadhi Girls Hostel Expenses	10,381	80
„	Rural Christian Service Fellowship	3,300	75
„	Affiliation Fee	1,000	00
„	Annual Sales Expenditure	10,071	97
„	Guest Room Maintenance	150	00
„	South India Workers Conference	405	10
		7,05,680	56

SOCIETY OF INDIA

MADRAS-600 014.

ear ended 31st March 1986

INCOME

		Rs.	P.
By	Area Collections	5,11,927	51
„	Interest on Deposits	13,256	94
„	Dividend from Shares	57	00
„	Jawadhi Girls Hostel	13,717	25
„	Interest from Savings Account	1,410	08
„	Guest Room Rent	3,685	00
„	Land Income	641	50
„	Churches	1,787	25
„	Medical	1,544	45
„	Sunday Collection	6,946	50
„	Prayer Meeting	872	40
„	Rural Christian Service Fellowship	2,145	80
„	Project Support	1,785	00
„	Miscellaneous	10,558	20
„	Song Books & Bibles	347	00
„	Annual Sales	75,062	70
„	Christmas Cheers	20,596	60
„	Personal Contribution	1,916	52
„	South India Workers Conference	6,435	00
„	North India Workers Camp	2,751	00
„	Youth & Seekers Camp	240	00
„	Thanks Offering	2,657	00
„	Birthday Offering	12,483	00
„	Excess of Expenditure over Income	12,856	86
		7,05,680	56

LIABILITIES

	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P
General Reserve	17,88,797	28		
Add : Life Membership Fee	3,500	00		
Jawadhi Hostel Building Fund	6,442	85		
	17,98,740	13		
Less : Excess of Expenditure over Income	12,856	86		
			17,85,883	2
Rent Advance			67,140	0
E. M. D.			6,500	0
Sadhu Sundar Singh Trust Fund			2,900	0
Rachel Mathew Memorial Fund			500	0
National Christian Council			5,870	7
Jeevammal White Memorial Trust Fund			1,000	0
Ear-Marked Funds - Loans			3,70,456	0
			22,40,250	0

MADRAS :
Dated : 29—12—1986

Sd/- Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH
GENERAL SECRETARY

as at 31—3—1986

ASSETS

	Rs.	P.
Land & Building	19,97,507	66
Furniture	66,811	03
Deposits	1,352	01
Shares in Tropical Plantations Ltd.	370	00
Fixed Deposits	54,330	00
Imprest with Workers	1,200	00
Staff Advance	2,590	00
House Rent Advance	1,400	00
Other Advances	2,200	00
Cash at Bank	1,10,040	07
Cash and Stamps on hand	2,449	25
	22,40,250	02

d/- Mr. M. D. SELVARAJ
Hon. TREASURER

Sd/- HARSHA, ANANTU & SANKAR
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Kumarappa Mudali Street,
Madras-600 034.

Regd. No. M. 609
Licence No. 23 Licenced to post without pre-payment

OBITUARY

Dr. (Mrs.) Ivy Jones

Dr. (Mrs.) Ivy Jones wife of Dr. Jones of Arcot had her Home Call on Friday, 20th Feb 1987. She was really a source of strength to all of us in the N M S. She devoted her times and talents for the work of the Society. She was once the Treasurer of NMS North Arcot District.

May the Eternal God grant comfort and consolation to the bereaved members of this family.

Mr. Kannan Isaac :

Mr. Kannan Isaac of Vellore had his Home Call suddenly and his mortal remains were interred at the Church cemetery on 6-2-87. He was a staunch supporter of NMS. He was sincerely involved for the welfare of this Society and his demise is really a loss to Christians particularly NMS

May the Lord console and comfort to the bereaved members of this family.

ne Number of February 1987 issue should be ublished.

ublished by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600002

The National Missionary Intelligencer

Vol. 80 | MAY 1987 | No. 5

Property of
Graduate Theological Union
JUN 2 9 1987

TOP — Jawadhi Tribal Girls Hostel Students.
BOTTOM — Students lined up before going to School.

NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Telephone : 87314

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2. Letter from the General Secretary

3. Jawadhi Tribal Girls Hostel

4. Field Reports

5. Obituary

MEDITATION

REACTIONS ON THE RESURRECTION DAY

The gospel writers have narrated the resurrection of Jesus in the following passages—Mathew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-10; Luke 24;1-12; John 20:1-10

THE WOMEN AT THE TOMB:

Neither the women who followed Jesus nor the disciples who were with Jesus had the hope that Jesus will come alive. As we read in the Gospels, the women went to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. Mathew in his words has expressed "Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb." They went to have a look at the tomb. In Mark we find "on the way they said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb."

To their surprise, they found the stone was removed. It was not only the stone removed, but they saw only an empty tomb. They went to the tomb with a question that who will roll away the stone for us ? Who will do it for us. They knew their inability to roll away the big stone from the entrance. They needed help. Realising their inability and yet they were dare enough to reach the tomb even in the very early morning.

They went there to see the body of Jesus and to put spices. They were there to express their love for their dear Jesus. They did not think of what others will think or speak about them. At the tomb they heard the voice "He is not here, He is risen." At the tomb they met the resurrected Jesus. At the tomb they heard the message to be conveyed.

Nothing could block them from reaching the tomb. They were there as they planned. Women are courageous in expressing their love for their God. Myself and

Mr. David Suresh were in Erode on the Palm Sunday and saw processions of other faiths both men and women going to their temple carrying pots on their heads. Some of them were dancing, expressing their piety towards their Gods. The women out-numbered the men. Even in the Churches, we find the women out-numbering men.

When we look at the history of Protestant Missions, it is noted that more women missionaries have gone out to different countries from the West. They were a group of people with determination.

When we consider the missionary organisations in India, the women have gone from one place to another, from one culture to another, from one area to another. There would be more moving out of their homes and territories for Christ, provided if the parents and churches encourage them.

Miss Kamalesini Cincar, an Educationalist from Punjab University, went as a missionary from N.M.S. to Nepal where there was no religious freedom. (Till today there is no religious freedom). Miss Jayamani Tailor from Madurai went to Puram near Tirupathur. Miss E. L. Joshua was the Organising Secretary in the South for a few years giving her young and energetic life for Christ sake. A few women went from Tanjore to the Rewa field of the N.M.S. and spent their whole life for Jesus. Even today there are women in N M.S. who have gone to distant places carrying the resurrection message, because of their love for the Master. Eg. Miss Vasantha Kumari David from Tuticorin to Kakal in Maharashtr is a She is a M.Sc., B.D. Miss Kokila Rebecca is a B.A. B.Ed., from Tanjore to Jawadhi Hills. (At present she is in the hospital due to an accident). Being in the bed she expressed "As soon as I am healed, I will go back to the field."

Parents and Churches should encourage the educated children who are called by God to take the Gospel to the

unreached areas of our country and elsewhere to proclaim the love of Jesus.

Will you go for proclaiming Jesus ?

Will you encourage others to go for Jesus ?

Will your Church send out people for Christ ?

J. M. JAYASINGH

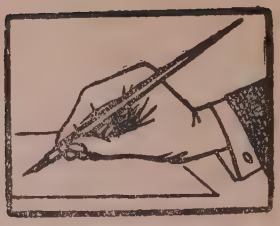
(To be Continued)

NOTICE : **to all alumni and friends of :**

South India Biblical Seminary / South India Bible Institute

1987 is the year of the Golden Jubilee of the founding of this school. Many of you have moved over the years, and we have lost touch with you. We would like to keep you informed of the special events of the Golden Jubilee year, and keep our "SIBS REFLECTIONS" mailing address list up-to-date. Please let us know your present address. Send it to the Principal, SIBS, Box 20, Bangarapet, Karnataka-563 114.

Letter from the General Secretary



Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Lent and Easter are over this year and now we look forward to the next Christian festival. But the presence of the living Christ continues to be with us whether we realise it or not. The living Christ's presence is necessary in our day-today life.

A LOOK BACK TO APRIL :

Being in Tanjore on 4th April, I visited a few friends and spoke at the Sing Song Night organised by the Tanjore N M.S. in which the youths of the St. Peters Church sang. Young people have talents, but mostly they are submerged by the situations.

On 5th April, along with Mr. D. W. Herbert and Mr. Edwin Jayaraj, we were at the Christ Church in Trichy. Also we visited the N.M.S. friends in Kailasapuram (B.H.E.L.) where the friends have promised to support a missionary. We praise God for the involvement of the friends in Tanjore and Trichy.

From 12th to 15th April, I was asked to preach the Word of God at the Brough Memorial Church in Erode. During that period, along with Mr. David Suresh, I visited a few people. We praise God for the opportunity we had in meeting many people.

Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday, I was engaged in the Holy Week programmes helping the Churches in

Madras City. Thank God for the opportunities to preach the word of God.

ANNUAL HOLIDAYS:

From 22nd April 1987, we as family have come to Trivandrum for our annual holidays and we plan to get back to the Headquarters by the middle of May 1987.

KILLINGS:

We hear repeatedly about the killings in Sri Lanka, Punjab and elsewhere and we do not know how long this will continue. We need to pray for the bereaved families. We also need to pray for the people who are striving for peace in the troubled areas, both within the country and outside.

COMMUNAL POLITICAL PARTIES:

There are very strong tendencies to have their own political parties based on the religion and communities. Several have been organised and fought in the elections. Should the Christians also follow this pattern? Is this the Christ's way? Is His Kingdom based on this world? Christians in our country need to be above formation of political parties. The mission of Christ is to change the minds and hearts of humanity. Christ said, "My Kingdom is not of this World." We Christians should be examples to other religious groups in this country. We also need to pray for the government and be Christians in the places, where God has placed us.

Let us live as Christians for God's Glory.

HOT SUMMER:

Our Evangelists in North India need to be lifted up in prayer as they face this hot summer. Availability of water

has become a problem in several parts of the country. People stand waiting in number of places after lining up vessels for drinking water, to be supplied by the Government. Wells and tanks have dried up. Availability of underground water also has become scarce, due to scarcity of rains. God has to send rain. Let us pray that God may give us sufficient rains. No Government can supply water if there is no rain from above.

Let the living presence of Jesus be with us.

With prayers and best wishes.

Yours in His service,

J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

JAWADHI TRIBAL GIRLS HOSTEL

The Beginning :

The need for educating the tribal girls of Jawadhi Hills was felt as far back as in 1966, when the Rev. D. Elias was the Missionary of N M.S. Realising the need, the Standing Committee of the N.M.S.I. took a decision to start a Girls Hostel at Jamnamarathur in 1972. They also decided to use only the resources from India. Due to lack of funds the project was postponed; but the matter was alive.

Implementation :

The matter was raised again at the Executive Committee held in Bangalore from 26th—28th Jan. 1981, by Mr. V. G. Williams and the following members were

appointed as a sub-committee to study the matter and report back to the committee.

General Secretary~Convener,

Missionary in charge in Jawadhi Hills.

Mr. R. Alfred

Mr. V. G Williams

Mr. K. M. Mathew

Hon. Asso. General Secretary and Hon Treasurer.

This committee studied the project in detail and the Executive Committee gave the green signal to begin the project.

Trusting God the Hostel was started on 2nd August 1981 with four girls as inmates and they were sent to the Forest Department High School in Jamnamarathur.

Building :

The old chapel was used as living room of the girls. Rev. & Mrs. Thiraviam were in charge of the hostel. As the strength of the students increased in the ensuing academic year, more space was needed. With the help of the funds received from Dr. Mrs. Thampiah (Dr. Mrs. Thampiah is very old and cannot see and yet her interest in the work of N M.S. has not diminished a bit), first floor was constructed above the building for medical work.

All the girls were shifted to this new building in the year 1985.

The work in the building is not yet completed. It has to be electrified, (Temporary connection is given). Flooring has to be done and walls have to be painted. It will cost approximately Rs. 8000/-

1986—87 Academic Year :

There were 40 girls, at the hostel and most of them are from far away villages. These girls were students of VIth to X Stds.

During the academic year Miss Kokila Rebecca, Warden of the Hostel, met with an accident and her spinal cord was damaged and she was admitted to the C.M.C. Hospital on 23rd Jan. 1987. She is expected to be back to work by the beginning of August 1987.

Miss Kokila Rebecca, maintained the discipline of the hostel. Even in her absence the students maintained the same discipline.

Plan for Development :

At present we are not in a position to increase the number in the hostel as there is no space for accommodating more students.

In order to increase the number, we need to have another building and the Society does not have sufficient funds for this programme.

Immediate Need :

1. The hostel needs an assistant warden.
2. About 20 students still need sponsors who could contribute Rs. 80/- per month per student.
3. Your earnest prayers are needed for the students and the warden.

General Secretary

FIELD REPORTS

Mrs. & Mr. M. Jesudoss, Kalyanamanthai:

They visited a few villages during this month. In Northamathur Village, Mr. Palani and his family are growing in faith. Praise God for giving complete deliverance to Mr. Palani from his illness.

Please pray for:

1. Smt. Malliga for complete deliverance from the evil spirit.
2. Mrs. Lakshmi Ammal of Thoppur Village, for God's grace to stand firm in her faith.
3. Mrs. Rajamma of Kalyanamanthai who was sick and received wonderful healing touch from the Lord,—to stand as a real witness in her village.
4. The School Ministry.
5. Mr. Lakshman, a believer, who is working as a Head Constable, partner.
6. Mr. Raman who wants to accept the Lord, facing problems from his kith and kin.
7. Mrs. Fatima, for complete deliverance from all the problems she is facing now.

Mrs. & Mr. S. Robert John, Veerappanoor:

The Evangelist writes that he visited 5 villages during this month. As a result, a few young people accepted the Lord. Please pray for their salvation.

Mr. E. F. Bernadsha, Katyankudisai:

The work is going on smoothly. Two persons Viz. M/s. Pandy and Malliga have received God's wonderful

deliverance from the clutches of evil spirit. Please pray for them.

Mr. James Meyyan, Athippattu :

He visited 17 villages and preached the word of God. Please pray for their salvation.

Belghana — Mrs. & Mr. Immanuel and Tengenmuda — Mr. Benjamin Sagar :

They visited many villages and preached the gospel. Pray for the salvation of Mr. Nameder, a staunch Hindu and seeker for Truth.

Mr. P. Devairakkam, Jamnamarathur :

He visited 14 villages during the month. Please pray for the salvation of the people of these villages, especially for Mr. Natesan's family, who accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi and Mr. Daud Sagar — Puri (Orissa) :

Praise God for the various activities going on at this field. Pray for the 13 seekers to accept the Lord as their personal Saviour.

Mr. M. P. Andrews — Pudur Nadu :

He visited 14 villages and preached the gospel. 20 persons heard the word of God eagerly. Pray to God for their salvation.

Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. Devanesan and Mr. G. Gunesekaran — Chakkarpur, M P. :

They visited 20 villages and preached the gospel. About 300 persons responded. Please pray for them.

Mr. Godfrey B. Soans — Hebri, Karnataka :

Please pray for the salvation of Mr Subash Chandra, Hebri, who eagerly listened the word of God at a meeting.

Mr. P. A Charles — Allery :

The Evangelist reports that he visited 23 villages during April 1987. 112 persons have responded to gospel. Please pray for them.

Rev. & Mrs. Thiraviam — Kandili Karagapatti :

Please pray for the salvation of Mr. Nalvanki Gounder who heard the gospel in Aramoor village.

Mrs. & Mr. Jayaraj Samuel — Gundalathur :

Praise God, they visited 2 villages, Jampadi, Koilandur. Please pray for the salvation of Mr. Nadupaiyan and family.

Mr. S. William Soundararaj & Mr. John Soundararaj— Nadanur :

About 80 persons heard the gospel. Please pray for them.

N. M. S. CONVENTION AT TIRUPPUVANAM (MADURAI) REPORT

Our N.M.S. Convention was convened by Bro. Victor Henry, Organising Secretary, Madurai, at Tiruppuvanam. The meetings were held from 13th to 15th March 1987. Rev. Ivan Jacob, the Pastorate Chairman, helped to a greater extent for the success of the meetings. His help was really notable and he should be commended for his concern towards NMS Ministry.

I joined Bro. Victor Henry only on 14th March, 1987 and delivered messages in three meetings. On Sunday, 15th March 1987 many sisters committed themselves to our Lord with tears in the morning service.

Our Lord worked through us really and Bro. Solomon a youngman came forward to commit for the Ministry.

On my part if mention is not made about Bro. Victor Henry, I may fail in my duty. His dedicated work to the cause of NMS for His glory is really commendable. Our Lord will do greater things through young people like him in our Land.

Please pray for the follow up work in this connection.

I shall conclude with a suggestion. We should arrange NMS convention in almost all Pastorates in order to promote our NMSI work.

Please pray for me and my ministry.

Yours in Him,

R. Gnana Rathinam, M.Com., B.Ed., B.D.
Area Secretary, Srivilliputtur.

COMMISSIONED TO REACH THE UNREACHED

Television reporting of the mercury dropping below Zero! Experiencing it literally on 31st January we reached the Queen of Hills Ootacamand in the Nilgiris Dt.

First of February dawning, sun peeping out with its glorious rays, everything set and done, the Bells of CSI

Holy Trinity Church on the air, the Service began on solemn note, the members rushing, and were continuing to come in.

With a brief introduction of the mininisry of NMS by Mr. Victor Henry, Organising Secretary for South Tamil Area, tne Evangelist, Mr. Bernadsha shared the field news.

Rev. Gunabalan and Rev. Devadoss commissioned the Evangelist and Rev. Devadoss presented the Missionary a Bible

Surely it was a red letter day in the history of NMS Ooty Branch. The local Christians and also few leaders from Coonoor Branch with the subscribers graced the occasion with their prayer and presence. Indeed it was resounding assurance for the Missionary to bravely move forward.

I take this opportunity to thank the President and Members of NMS Branch and executive for their keenness and interest in sponsoring a missionary on their behalf to reach our Mother Land for Christ. Thanks are also due to the Presbyter, Pastorate Committee and the Congregation of Holy Trinity Church for having made it possible to commission of Missionary.

Mr. Bernadsha is an Evangelist at Thongumalai in Jawadhi Hills. It is hoped that you will remember this Missionary and his activities in your daily prayers.

In the Task of Reaching the Unreached,

David Suresh
Organising Secretary for
North Tamil Area, Coimbatore.

NORTH TAMIL AREA NEWS

On 2nd Feb. 1987 at 6-30 p.m., a prayer meeting was held at the residence of Mr. Victor Solomon, Manager, Singer Company, Coimbatore. Members belonging to the CSI and Lutheran Churches participated. Mr. Paulraj who is presently helping us in enlisting the monthly subscriptions from the Lutheran Members, led the meeting.

Mr. C. Bagyanathan and his team rendered an impressive melody on their Violin. Mr. Victor Henry, Organising Secretary, South Tamil Area, Madurai, shared the message for the evening and Mr. Bernadsha, Evangelist, explained his field work done in Kattiankudisai field in Jawadhi Hills, North Arcot district, and informed that God is continuing to perform miracles in the ministry among the hill tribes.

Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, General Secretary of NMSI, participated and explained the age-old association of Lutherans with NMS and also shared the activities of NMS being carried on in different parts of India. He also appealed to the participants for extending their prayer and financial suprort towards medical relief for Miss Kokila Rebecca, NMS Tribal Girls Hostel Warden, who met with an accident and also other essential needs in the fields. Responding to the appeal, immediately the following members came forward with generous donation for the same ;

For Medical Aid:

Mr. Adam Dhanaraj	Rs. 50/-
Mr. D. Paulraj	Rs. 50/-
Mrs. Jothibai Daniel	Rs. 50/-
Mr. Thangiah	Rs. 50/-
Mr. Victor Solomon	Rs. 100/-
Mr. M. C. Dorai	Rs. 100/-

For Field Needs :

Mr. Victor Solomon ... Rs. 586/- towards purchase of bicycle.

Mr. M. C. Dorai ... Rs. 300/- towards purchase of Petromax.

Mr. D. Paulraj in his concluding remarks referred to the discussion he had with the Bishop of TELC, who is said to have assured his co-operation for the Ministry of NMS and its activities.

The Organisation conveys its thanks to the donors for their prayerful participation and immediate gesture of extending financial support

David Suresh

Organising Secretary for
North Tamil Area, Coimbatore.

ERRATA

In paragraph-2 on page 6 of March—April 1987 issue (Vol. 80 No. 3 & 4), it was mentioned that "Mrs. Thomas donated Rs. 600/- to purchase a cycle for the work in Tenganmudda". Kindly read the name as Mrs. E. Thompson, (Life Member of NMSI), Jhansi.

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OBITUARY

aniel father of Mr. John S. Daniel, U.P. ss (I) Minority Celi, Lalbagh, Lucknow, had leavenly abode on 14th March 1987. He was a supporter of NMSI and his Services are always remembered by us.

Dr. (Mrs.) S. D. N. Paul :

Dr. (Mrs) S. D N Paul slept in Jesus at Secunderabad on 26-3-1987 and laid to rest on 27-3-1987. She devoted her life for the work of NMSI as Secretary of that area, and her demise is really a loss, particularly to NMSI.

Pastor Wallace Lyall :

Pastor Wallace Lyall of Jhansi had his Home Call at 9 p m. on 19-4-1987. He was a regular supporter and was kind enough to celebrate the NMS Sunday on 29-3-1987.

Mother of Mr. A. Brown :

The mother of Mr A. Brown, Secretary of NMS Delhi Area Committee, had her Home Call on Good Friday, 17th April 1987 at about 8 a m. She celebrated her 72nd birth day on 15-4-1987. The NMS remembers her involvement in its work at that part of our country.

May the Lord console and comfort to the bereaved members of these femilies.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600002

The National Missionary Intelligencer

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TOP

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BOTTOM

(For details, please see back cover)

NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Telephone : 87314

MEDITATION

REACTIONS ON THE RESURRECTION DAY

1)	Mathew :	28:8	—	They left the tomb in a hurry Afraid yet filled with Joy
2)	Mark :	16:8	—	They went out and ran from the tomb distressed and terrified. They said nothing to any one because they were afraid.
3)	Luke	24:4	—	They stood there puzzled
		5	—	Full of fear
		8	—	They remembered His words returned from the tomb

Through the previous issue of the N.M I. we have meditated on the women who were at the tomb and who went out proclaiming about Jesus' resurrection, because they were told about it and it was their experience in meeting the risen Lord Jesus.

The women who went to the tomb had mixed reactions as they could not see the body of Jesus and as they were told 'He is risen' "He is alive" "He is not here" "Why are you looking among the dead for one who is alive ?" They were told these things by the angels, who were robed in white garments. They never expected to hear such a news. They came to the tomb, talking to one another, who will roll away the stone ?

The empty tomb and the message conveyed to the women made them to be in mixed reactions. When they were told about the resurrection of Jesus they had the following reactions.

They left the tomb.
They came to anoint the body of Jesus as we find in the passages about his resurrection (please read them)

But now when they were told about the risen Lord, they left the tomb. It is to be noted "they left the tomb immediately", they went out and ran from the tomb, "returned from the tomb". The above statements show that they did not want to be at a place, where they could not find their Lord Jesus. They had the thirst to meet Him.

The Psalmist in his agony cries out "As a deer longs for a stream of cool water, so I long for you, O God, I thirst for you, the living God; when can I go and worship in your presence." (Psalm 42:1-2). Men and women in their life time earn for God. People may have their own dearest kith and kin; lot of wealth, good education and all that of the world, and yet there is the longing in life to have God in his or her life.

People make visits to the pilgrim centres, temples and mosques. Why? Is it not, because there is a longing in their hearts to see God and to be satisfied? We Christians go to Churches to worship God, with our fellow beings, to offer our prayers and supplications, offer our offerings and ourselves to God, to meet Him in the Church with others and hear His word. Are we not longing for it if we were not able to go to church on a Sunday?

There are people who want to participate in the Lord's supper everyday. If they do not begin the day with the Lord's supper they feel that they have lost something very important.

Crores of people long for God. Do they meet Him? Have you taken any step for it?

The women hurried out from the tomb because they were afraid. Fear haunts a man or woman if he or she realized that there is no one around him, if there is no safety in the place where he is. There is fear if God's presence is not realized. Fear of the future haunted them. They were all following Jesus. They could not see Jesus as they planned. Are you afraid of your future?

You are retired from service.

You are going to retire from service.

You are sick. There is sickness in the home.

You are bedridden for a long time.

You have failed in your exams.

You have failed in your interviews.

You are criticised.

You are worried.

You are asked to hurry out from the place where you are.

You are asked to shed your fears.

He is resurrected and He lives.

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary.

(To be continued)

FOR INFORMATION :

The following are not in the service of the National Missionary Society of India :—

1. Mr. Mahesh Chandra of Lucknow.
2. Mr. Stephen Purushothaman of Kulathupuzha, Trivandrum.
3. Mr. J. Dhayananthan of Basai.
4. Mrs. Jane Shafiq Masih, Basai.
5. Mr. John Arthur of Kattian-kudisai, Jawadhi Hills.
6. Mr. P. A. Charles, Allery, Jawadhi Hills.

General Secretary.

Letter from the General Secretary

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

R.C.S.F. Camp :

During the second fortnight of May 1987, the R.C.S.F. Camp was conducted at Jamnamarathur. 31 students participated and most of them were from Madras Diocesan limit. A few young men came from the Lutheran Church in Vaniyambadi. The Rev. Chandra Sekar of the Madras Diocese conducted the Bible studies. Almost all the students who came for the camp took a decision to follow Jesus. Three Organising Secretaries assisted me in the Camp,

Miss Kokila Rebacca :

Her health has improved and the office has received a letter on 6th June 1987 from the Social Worker of the CMC Hospital, Vellore, stating "Miss Kokila Rebacca has gained sitting balances and is improving steadily but slowly" Let us praise God for this improvement and also pray that God may bring her back to normal health and join the work. If that happens, she will be a witness for Christ in Jawadhi Hills.

Jawadhi Tribal Girls Hostel :

In the previous issue of the NMI, you have seen the reports about the Jawadhi girls hostel. All the 40 girls had passed in their annual exams. Praise God!

Let us also pray for their further education. They need an Assistant Warden who could be with them, teach them and guide them in their spiritual life.

New President of our country :

The Presidential election will be taking place at the middle of July. As citizens of this country of ours, it is our bounden duty to pray for the leaders, particularly for the election of a new President. Both the State and Central Governments need our prayers to tackle and solve the raging problems

Pentecost :

Rememberance of the Pentecost was observed in the Churches on 7th June 1987. We the Christians limit ourselves with the observation of the day, but we need to experience it in our own lives. We need to study the word of God, from where we find the Spirit of God in action from the beginning of the word. As Churches and individuals, we need to experience Him in our lives to witness Him. Let the Spirit of God guide us.

With best wishes and prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary

PRAYER REQUESTS :

1. For the Training Centre to train the N. M. S. workers (Place, funds and people)
2. For necessary funds to pay the salaries of the Staff and Missionaries of the N.M.S. N.M.S. needs a little more than a lakh for a month.
3. For the Converts and Seekers retreat and hostel day programmes at Jamnamarathur on 1st and 2nd August and for the needed funds. (Rs. 3500/-)
4. For the Converts retreat in Kashmir in September and for the needed funds (Rs. 5,000/-).
5. For the converts who want to be baptized.
6. For the Annual Sales at Madras on 15-8-1987 and at Thanjavur on 2-10-1987.

FIELD REPORTS

Mr. Vijayan, Kattiyankudisai :

A group of members from Trust for Christ Central Church visited this area They gave the gospel message with songs. There were good gatherings in these meetings and several evinced keen interest.

Prayer Requests :

Please pray for the believers M. Govindasamy, Duraisamy and Mrs. Pappathie and also for Mr. Mani, Chinnasami, Duraisamy, Chinnasamy and Ramasamy who are ready for baptism.

Mrs. & Mr. O. James Meyyan, Athipattu :

He reports that during this month his topics of the gospel message were "Virgin Birth", "Story of Christ" and the tribal people listened the messages keenly. Due to a murder in Athipattu, students coming to the night classes stopped because of fear. Pray that the students go to the night classes without any fear. Pray that the youngster Chandran who is ready for baptism may be firm in his faith in the Lord.

Mr. Babu Karunya Giri & Mr. Michael, Allery :

During the course of their visits to spread the gospel message they also prayed for the sick who came to the evangelists for special prayers.

Chinnasamy and Chinnapaiyan have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Pray that these two persons may know more about our Lord and be firm in their faith.

Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews, Pudur Nadu :

Visited several villages and made follow up contacts. Some of the educated wanted New Testaments so that they can read and know more about Jesus Christ and their requests were complied with. One Perumal who was cured

of his ailments is now attending the Sunday services regularly. Some of those attending the Sunday Services particularly Raman, Perumal and Ramarathinam are gradually establishing their faith in Jesus. Pray that they may accept Jesus as their Saviour. In the village Kottanur Chandran, Krishnan and Vedi after hearing the word of God have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord. Let us pray for them. They are from Hindu families.

Mr. William Soundarrajan & Mr. John Soundarrajan, Nadanur :

In Kovilur and Patnur villages open air meetings were arranged and the gospel message was given to those assembled. Nearly 300 persons attended these meetings and many were spiritually benefited. Mr. William Soundarrajan had undergone a refresher course in the Summer School at Bangarapet for two weeks. This has enabled him to do God's work with more vigour and enthusiasm.

Mrs. & Rev. A.Thiraviam,—Kandili Karagapatti :

Mr. Kuppusami of Kandili village had no peace of mind, faced with family problem ie., no love and unity among the family members. He was also not well physically and couldn't take food. He came to the evangelists who prayed for him and shared God's message with him. He is now reading the Bible and praying regularly.

Mr. Kannan of Kariyampatti is a staunch Hindu who professes that the Hindu Gods are the real Gods. To him the evangelists told about the birth, death, resurrection and second coming of Jesus Christ. About 10 persons are prepared for baptism, but there are several obstacles and opposition from the villagers. Pray that no force on earth shakes these persons from their faith in Jesus.

Mrs. Pushpa Thiraviam wants us to pray for Mrs. Deivanai and Mrs. Selvi who have some problems in their families. Please remember these individuals in your prayers.

Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakkam, Jamnamarathur:

These evangelists assisted the General Secretary in running the RCSF Camp at Jamnamarathur from 21-5-87 to 1-6-87 very successfully. By enacting small dramas and talking with the tribal people in their own accent the gospel message was spread among them. Repairs to the dining hall and kitchen of the Jamnamarathur Tribal Girls Hostel repairs to the old chapel and laying pipe lines to the hostel have been undertaken. Pray that God may give us the required funds for these works. It is reported that there are some evil forces working against the families of Peter, Ponnusami, Poochi and Chinnapaiyan preventing them from taking baptism. Pray that these barriers are broken.

Mrs. & Mr. Robert John, Veerappanur:

Pattu of Veerappanur was laid up with fever and one John Kennedy has been struck with some kind of fear in the jungle. After prayers by the evangelists they have recovered. They have been told the good news from the Bible. Pray for them.

Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel, Gundalathur:

During the month, the NMS house at Gundalathur occupied by the evangelist was repaired at a cost of Rs. 2750/-. It is reported that the gospel message was taught to the labourers engaged in carrying out the repairs. The long felt need for a megaphone has been fulfilled by Mr. David Suresh, Organising Secretary who has provided one. This is very useful in giving God's message among children, in School and in interior villages. People with small ailments in these area came to Mrs. Saramma Jeyaraj for treatment. Such persons are given medical help with prayers and the effect is good.

Mr. Francis Bernardsha & Mr. Margu
Prayer Requests:

1. That the believers Chinnathambi, Swaminathan, Annamalai, Ponnusamy and Krishnan who are not regular in attending the church may come to the church regularly.

2. That the family of Chinnaiyan may accept Jesus Christ.

Mrs. & Mr. Jesudas, Kalyanamanthai :

Both of them were deputed to the Summer School of Evangelism at Bangarapet. They report that the course is very helpful in their spiritual life and ministry.

Prayer Requests :

1. For the night School.
2. For the new families, who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour.
3. For the cottage prayer meetings.
4. For Annamalai and Arunachalam who are interested in hearing the gospel.
5. For Andrew, a young believer in Christ.

Mr. C. Devanesan & Mr. Gunasekaran, Chakkarpur :

Concentrated in Manpur Gandhinagar and Tilak Nagar for evangelical work. It was a thrilling experience that Sivalal, Ramesh, Ganesh and Devadi Ammal had a thirst to know more and more about Jesus Christ. They are now reading the New Testament regularly. In this part telling the gospel is not an easy thing. The evangelists are often threatened with dire consequences if they preach the gospel. God has thus far given the courage to the evangelists to face the threats. Pray for them.

Mr. V. T. Abraham, Mr. Daniel Bal & Mr. Bir Singh Lepcha :

Sunday services and Sunday Schools are conducted regularly where the attendance is fairly good. In Khamdong a family of four have accepted the Lord. In Thansingh village there are more new believers and they attend the Sunday services regularly.

In Maledada and New Ravanthang Villages many Nepalese believe in the Lord. Miss Kamala a student in Ravanthang School has accepted Jesus Christ. In Rongli

and Dhalpachan villages two families have accepted Jesus Christ. But because of the opposition by the villagers and kith and kin they are not able to come closer to God.

Mrs. & Mr. Sampath James, Lukkimpurkheri :

Now that the harvest is over, it is easy for the evangelist to meet the villagers in their houses. They are met in small groups in their huts and told about the love of God through songs and short stories. It is festival time in many villages. The evangelists are making good use of the megaphone given to them in the places of festival gatherings and in shandies by giving the gospel message and distributing tracts. Several evinced great interest in listening the messages. In village Gunj, Baselal and his wife and Arjunlal have accepted Christ. Usman a graduate has expressed that he wants to know more about Jesus Christ. This youngster is being contacted frequently. One Rajesh Kumar of Lukkimpurkheri who has some knowledge of various religions has no peace of mind. He now believes that Jesus Christ alone can give him real peace. He is in frequent contact with the evangelists.

Mrs. & Mr. Immanuel, Belghana :

They are working in a very difficult area where there is stiff opposition to the preaching of the gospel. Youngsters put several obstacles, threaten the evangelists and mock at them. They enter into unnecessary arguments with the evangelists and challenge them to prove that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of mankind. The evangelists are in this area for more than a year. Their concern is that they have not won even a single soul for Christ so far and are a little bit dejected. They have to understand that the fruits of evangelism cannot be judged by numbers alone. Let us pray for them.

Mrs. & Mr. D. Prabhudas, Bijapur (Karnataka State) :

The important event in this field was the one day retreat at Athani in the State Home. The main theme at the retreat was "The meaningful life." Messages on this

theme were given by Dr. George Bankapur and the evangelist. Nearly 40 persons mostly Hindus attended the retreat. The success of the retreat was reflected by the fact that at the conclusion of the meeting many confessed that they accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

The arrangements for the retreat ie food, accommodation etc., were made by Mrs. Praba Karming, Supdt. of the State Home. We extend our thanks to her and her family.

A WITNESS FROM MISS WAZIRA

I belong to a Muslim family. My parents are still Muslims. When I was a young girl, I was interested in religion and so I studied Quran completely. It all happened in 1986 when I met a God-fearing Christian lady Miss Premi Gergan who guided me in having knowledge of New Testament and shared with my problems and she introduced me to Mr. Tahir Masih, N M.S. Evangelist at Kashmir, who taught me something about the Bible and the Quran. He made me aware of things which had never even come in my mind before. By learning all this from him, a change came in my heart and consequently my way of thinking had also changed, and I came to the conclusion that every human being is a sinner and cannot get salvation through good works, and he needs a Saviour and the Saviour is Jesus Christ. So I came to know that Jesus Christ is the only one who is Holy and that is why He sacrificed His life for us, in order that whoever believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life, and this is why I have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. I also believe that Jesus Christ has accepted me. Having put my faith in Christ, I tried to see the face of the Lord through fast and prayer and, in spite of doing this, I could not see the Lord and I was sad. But Mr. Tahir Masih comforted me and told me not to worry and not to doubt in my faith quoting John Chap 20 Verse 29 "Blessed are those who do not see and yet believe". On hearing this my worry had gone and now I am happy in the Lord. May God give the same joy to all mankind. In the name of Christ, Amen.

Miss Wazira, Srinagar, Kashmir.

MISSIONARY DEDICATION SERVICE AT KATPADI

Mr. R. Victor Ramana, Missionary in Puri, was dedicated at the Sunday Worship Service at the C.S.I. Church, Katpadi, on 14th June 1987. The Rt. Rev. H S. Dharmaraj, Moderator Commissary of the Vellore Diocese dedicated the missionary.

The Katpadi C.S.I. Church will support the work of Mr. R. Victor Ramana.

The Pastorate Committee members and the Chairman Rev. Mahimai Rufus took the initiative to support the missionary. May God enable the Church to support more missionaries.

We thank the Presbyter and the Pastorate Committee for the regular support which the Society gets from more Church.

Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

BELGHANA AND THENGANMUDA···WHERE?

Belghana and Thenganmuda are two mission stations of NMS which are at the Railway route of Delhi to Howrah. These two places are in Bilaspur District of M.P. It is a jungle area. All the trains cross through this area have a stop at Belghana.

Thenganmuda is 10 KM away from Belghana, which has also a Railway Station. There are no proper roads.

Religion of the people : Different communities live in and around the villages, who follow Hinduism and Islam. There are adivasis who live in interior villages in the jungles.

Christians : There are five Christian families in Belghana who belong to different denominations and one family at Thengenmuda. There is a church at Kargi Road which is about 35 Kms from Belghana.

People : Ordinary people, of whom most of them are involved in cultivation, cutting of firewood and only a very few are employed in Government and most of them are only from Belghana and Thengenmuda.

Villages Covered : There are a number of villages around these two centres. Out of them 30 villages are covered by our evangelists. To reach the villages, the evangelists have to cross the rivers and jungles. During the rainy season it will not be easy to cross the rivers and reach the people.

Reactions :

People listen to the gospel messages and yet they say they have their own gods and they are satisfied by them.

Under People :

Only about 2% of people could read and write. They speak Chattishgadi—Hindi which has no script. In each village there are about 200 houses.

Evangelists :

Mr & Mrs. Immanuel are staying at Belghana and Mr. Benjamin Sagar is at Thengenmuda. They are from Tamil Nadu, and Orissa, respectively. They visit the people in their own houses and talk to them about the love of Jesus. They also distribute tracts to the ones who could read and sell gospels and New Testaments.

Support :

Mr. & Mrs. Immanuel are supported by the St. John's CSI Church in Bangalore and Mr. Benjamin Sagar is supported by the Christians in Kailasapuram, Trichy.

Concern :

People in and around these villages must know the love of God and experience the Salvation in and through Jesus Christ.

Prayer Request :

1. Pray for the evangelists.
2. Pray for the people who read the gospel portions.
3. Pray for the people contacted through persona contacts.
4. Pray for God's protection upon the evangelists and they may continue to have the burden about the people in this area.

General Secretary.

MADRAS CITY AREA COMMITTEES OF N.M.S. ANNUAL SALE 1987

The Madras City Area Committees of N.M.S. will be conducting the Annual Sale to raise funds for the NMS work, on Saturday, 15th August 1987, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the C.S.I. Ewart Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Lawders Gate, Madras-600 084.

Guest Speaker : Dr. K. RAJARATNAM,
Executive Secretary,
United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India
Haddows Road, Madras-600 006.

Let us uphold the Ministry through N.M.S.

Come with family and friends.

Feel homely.

Give liberally for the medical, educational and gospel work.

Receive blessings abundantly.

ADMISSION FREE

"Expect great things from God,
Attempt great things for God."

ANNUAL SALE COMMITTEE,
AREA COMMITTEES, MADRAS.

OBITUARY

Mr. P. V. Mathew, S/o Mr. P. George Mathew, Coonoor:

Born on 1-11-1914 in Chengannur, Kerala, Mr. P. V. Mathew started his career in various places and finally in an Estate at Coonoor and retired from there. He died on 15-5-1987 following an accident at Coonoor and was laid to rest at the Marthoma Church Cemetery on 16-5-1987. He was a staunch supporter of NMS since 1947. He was able to know the names of NMS Missionaries by heart and was praying regularly for them.

He is survived by 3 sons and 5 daughters.

Mr. Sundaram :

Mr. Sundaram, a retired Headmaster, and son of Mr. John Karunakaran Hon. Secretary, Indian Missionary Society. Mettur had his Home Call on 26-5-1987 at his 87th year at Mettur. He was awarded "The Best Teacher" by Tamil Nadu Government. He devoted his time and talents for His glory. He had his own principle in reading Bible on sun light, daily in the morning.

He is survived by 3 sons and 2 daughters.

Mr. S. L. Jacob, Thycaud, Trivandrum :

He had his Home Call on 6-5-1987 at the age of 66 at Trivandrum. He was a regular supporter of the NMS. He worked as a Tea Maker in various factories of Tata Tea Limited, Munnar, and finally in the Management Cadre in Tea manufacture, and retired from service. During that period he took much interest in promoting the work of the NMS and the Home Missionary Society.

His son-in-law Mr Devasahayam Sydney is working in that Company and has been collecting money for the

work of NMS since his appointment. His son is a Missionary in India Evangelical Mission.

Mr. Jacob has left behind his dear wife Mrs. H. Jacob and children.

May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of the above families.

NMS SULTAN BATTERY BRANCH (KERALA)

A new branch of NMS was set up at Sultan Battery in the Wynad Area with the help of Mr. K. P. Paulose, NMS Organising Secretary for North Kerala and the following members were elected as Office-bearers of this Branch.

President: Rev. Samuel David (CSI)

Vice-President · Prof. G. T. George

Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. Varghese Mathew

Committee Members: Mr. Billy Graham, Mrs. Ivy Jayachandran; Prof. M. T. Oomman, Mr. A J. Joseph, Sis. Thankam (CSI Bethel Ashram) and Mr. K. G. George

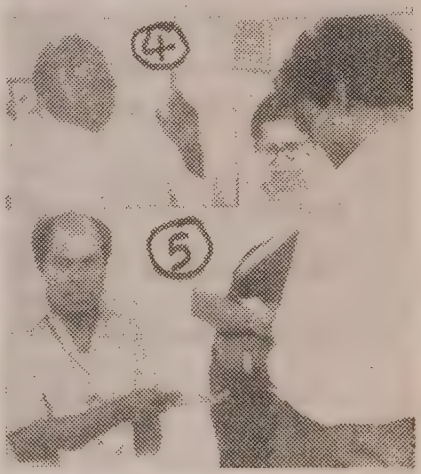
We are thankful to God for the involvement of these members in the work of NMS in Sultan Battery. May God Almighty bless this committee and congregation for their efforts and activities for His glory.

Regd. No. M. 609
Licence No. 23 Licenced to post without pre-payment

TOP - 1. NMS Evangelists at Belghana and Thenganmuda with Mr. F. S. Charles, Organising Secretary for Madhya Pradesh and with the family members of the house owner at Belghana.

2. Part of the river which they have to cross during rainy season.

3. Mr. Benjamin Sagar (extreme left) and Mr. Immanuel (third from left) along with a few enquirers at the Belghana Railway Station.



BOTTOM - 1. Mr. D. W. Herbert making enquiries with the NMS Evangelists at the Jhansi NMS Evangelists retreat.

2. Mr. V. G. Williams, Hon. Associate General Secretary, chatting with Rev. John Jayaraj and Mr. Yesudasan Thomas.

3. Evangelists after the session.

4. Rev. Paul Sanjeevi speaking at the public meeting at the Jhansi retreat.

5. Mr. V. T. Abraham receiving donations at Jhansi for the South India NMS Evangelist Retreat.

6. NMS Evangelists who came together for the retreat (5 were absent at the time of photograph and another 5 could not be present).

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road. Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600002

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THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Telephone: 87314

MEDITATION

Mathew	28 : 8 —	They left the tomb in a hurry Afraid yet filled with Joy.
Mark	16 : 8 —	They went out and ran from the tomb distressed and terrified. They said nothing to any one because they were afraid.
Luke	24 : 4 —	They stood there puzzled
	5 —	Full of fears
	8 —	They remembered His words returned from the tomb.

"Yet filled with Joy". In the King James version it is stated as "fear and great joy".

Everyone who loved and followed Jesus was in sorrow, because of the death of Jesus. They had never expected that He would be resurrected on the 3rd day. They were afraid of the jewish religious leaders. In this situation they heard about the risen Lord and they were filled with joy. "Joy" in the midst of disappointment, trials and tribulation means that it cannot be of earthly, but heavenly. Habakkuk, one of the minor prophets in the Old Testaments speaks of joy.

> Even though the fig trees have no fruit and no grapes grow on the vines, even the olive crop fails and the fields produce no corn, even though the sheep all die and the cattle-stalls are empty, I will still be joyful and glad, because the Lord God is my Saviour" (Habakkuk 3:17-18).

Psalmist repeatedly speaks of the joy, which comes from God and demanded every-one to be joyful.

When Jesus Christ was born, it was announced to the poor, distressed and fearful shepherds who kept watch over their flocks in the wilderness "Don't be afraid ! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people" (Lk 2 10). "Joy" is one of the fruits of the spirit (Gal 5:22). Our hearts should be filled with joy

It is told and experienced by many people that the worry and fears make a man to have a heart-attack. Joy has to come from God and if we could be joyful in the Lord, that will be expressed in and through our daily life.

Sin takes away the joy in your life, and brings fear in your mind, but Jesus gives joy and removes the fear.

King David cried out to the Lord, asking God "Give me again the joy that comes from your salvation……" (Psalm 51:12). He realised that he had lost the joy of salvation and he pleaded to regain the lost joy. There are a number of people who were in the joy of the Lord and gone back. They need to be restored to the joy of Salvation.

Many people, at their confirmation in the Church, convention, revival meetings, V.B.S., and retreats accept Christ as their personal Saviour and receive forgiveness of sins and become joyful Christians. But after some time they lose the joy, bacause they have disobeyed the Lord and fallen in the trap of the tempter. Perhaps it may be you!

You may be a young convert,
You may be a Sunday School teacher,
You may be an Evangelist,
You may be a youth worker, or a youth group member,
You may be an elder in the church
You may be a leader in the women's fellowship
You may be a Pastor or a Church Head.
You may be an important man in an Organisation
and yet you have lost the joy of salvation.

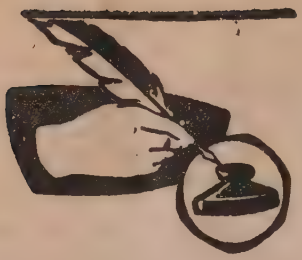
Will you cry and confess the sin which was the cause for losing that joy of the Lord which was in you?

He is prepared to accept us if we cry and confess our sins.

Do you have that joy, of having with you and in you the Risen Lord Jesus Christ?

J. M. JAYASINGH

(To be continued)



Letter from the General Secretary

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

New President :

We thank God for the election of the new President for our country which took place and Mr. R. Venkataraman was elected as the President. We congratulate him on his being elected to the highest post in our country. We also wish him success in his endeavours in guiding the nation as President of the Indian Republic. We assure him of our prayers.

Visit to Jawadhi Hills :

During the month of July 1987, I was able to visit a few interior stations in Jawadhi Hills namely Thongumalai, Kattiankudisai and Nadanoor. At Kattiankudisai and Thongumalai 6 people were baptised. I had separate meetings with the evangelists in different sections of Jawadhi Hills.

The Financial Position :

Our Lord has been very gracious in supplying the needs to the Society even during the month of July. We had to borrow money from other funds to send the salaries to the Evangelists. The Personnel Committee which met during the month of June had decided not to appoint any more evangelists because of the paucity of funds, but in the meeting held in July it was decided to appoint another 7 people trusting in God that He will supply the needed funds. Out of them 4 have joined and they are sent to Yavatmal for a short period of training.

Retreat for New Believers and Hostel day programme:

A retreat for the new believers in Jawadhi Hills and the Hostel Day were celebrated at Jamnamarathur on 1st and 2nd August 1987.

The Water Tank and the Evangelist's House were also dedicated. The details about these are given elsewhere in this issue.

Accord between India and Sri Lanka:

An accord has been reached between these two countries to solve the ethnic problems in Sri Lanka. We praise God for the two leaders who signed the Agreement. Let us all continue to pray that peace may exist in Sri Lanka among the people, particularly among the Sinhalese and Tamils.

Independence Day :

Our Nation will celebrate another Independence Day on the 15 August 1987. Everyone who reads the news paper regularly will be aware of the day-to-day problems which the nation faces and the corruption from which our people have not got deliverance. There are hatred and enmity among the political parties and one tries to topple the other. Communalism, Regionalism, Language issues etc., are dominating the minds of the people. We Christians have to play a vital part in the national integretion of the country helping one another and praying for one another, so that our people may have a better understanding with one another. We need to pray that the Lord's heavenly wisdom may descend on the National Leaders to guide the people of our land to live in peace and harmony. People in our country need to know the love of Jesus and to be delivered from the bondage of evil, corruption, regionalism, communalism and hatred. Are we trying to strive for an end to these things? Only the love of Jesus and fear of God can bring the people together so that we can have real independence in our country.

With prayers,

Yours in His Service,
J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary.

FIELD REPORTS

Mrs. & Mr. Robert John, Veerappanur :

Gospel was preached in fourteen villages and tracts were distributed to more than 200 persons. Chinnapaiyan of Ettimarathur and Pappathie of Vilakuppam who heard the gospel message and believed His words were healed of their ailments. Their prayer requests :

1. For the believers Mr. Karunanidhi and his wife who have no children since their marriage ten years ago that God may bless them with a child.
2. That J. Shanthi of Veerappanur may be relieved of the evil spirits she is possessed of.

Mrs. & Rev. A. Thiraviam—Kandili Karagapatti :

A Salesman in Karagapatti Co-operative Society and another gentleman are from orthodox Hindu background. They were told about the love of God that He gave His life to redeem the entire mankind from sin. They were also given a small book titled 'This was your life'. On reading it, they learnt more about God. Two teachers received tracts and were keen in reading the messages contained therein. Mr. Kuppusamy is a staunch Hindu. Though he initially refused to hear the Gospel message and read tracts etc., of late he is inclined to know about Jesus Christ. The evangelists visit him often in his house and pray for them. Let us also pray for them.

Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel, Gundalathur :

Mrs. Pappathie is ready to accept Jesus Christ. But her fear is that if she does so, she will be banished by her parents, kith and kin and by the villagers. She has a son aged one year whom she wants to bring up in Christian way. But the fear of the society daunts her. One Saroja had a nine months old child. This child died and it is believed to be due to evil spirit. The works of the evil

spirit did not stop with it. It besieged Saroja also. The victim ran to the evangelists for solace and relief from the deed of the evil spirit. These evangelists were joined by Bro. Jesudasan and family and all of them were in fasting prayers for 1½ days. A miracle happened. Our Lord heard the prayers and the woman was relieved of the evil spirits. Saroja and her family members now have faith in our Lord. Please pray that they may come unto the fold of Jesus Christ.

Unnamalai, a young lady, who had a severe attack of fever and was vomiting came to Mrs. Saramma Jeyaraj for treatment. The child who was suffering from incessant vomiting and diarrhoea was taken to the evangelists by her parents for treatment. After treatment with prayers they were cured. Pray that the medical aid rendered in a small way amongst these tribal people may be to the glory of God.

Mr. Francis Bernardsha & Mr. V. Margu

During the month they visited some new villages and preached the Gospel. Nadupanjan and his wife, Raman, Kollan and Chinnamuthu have accepted Jesus Christ. In Kiliyanur village one Periapillai who was possessed of evil spirit accepted Jesus Christ and wanted the evangelists to pray for her. Responding to the request the evangelists went to her house to pray, but her husband and others in the house refused to allow them to pray. Please pray for this family.

Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews, Pudur Nadu

Night classes for the illiterate are conducted regularly and 20 to 30 attend these classes. These children also regularly attend the Sunday School where they are taught small songs and verses and told small stories depicting the love of God for small children.

Nochi, Maron, Sivalingam of Arumalapattu village Venkatachalam of Melur and Siranam of Pudur Nadu are

new believers. You are requested to pray for them that they be firm in their faith.

Mr. P. Babu Karunya Giri and Mr. S, J. Michael, Allery :

Nearly 250 persons were contacted in their houses and the gospel was preached. Three persons were given New Testament. Night classes, Sunday Classes and prayer meetings are conducted according to programme and these are well attended. Ayyasamy and Doraisamy of Allery have accepted Christ and are attending the Church Services regularly. Pray for them.

Mr. William Soundararaj & Mr. John Soundararaj Nadunur :

Visited 15 villages and proclaimed the good news by songs and stories. In Patnur and Gampat villages nearly 250 participated in such meetings. Visited the mission field Allery and conducted street preachings. Nine students from this field have gone to the Hr. Sec. School at Jamnamarathur. Of them a few are regular in Bible reading and prayers. Pray that others may also follow suit.

The evangelist Mr. William Soundararaj is to get married on 19th August 1987. Remember him in your prayers that God may bless him with a long, happy and prosperous wedded life and that after his marriage he and his wife may serve the Lord in this area in a dynamic way.

Mrs. & Mr. P. Devairakkam, Jamnamarathur :

During the month they were busy in the admission of new students to the Jawadhi Girls hostel Pray that the students in the hostel are brought up in good discipline and that they are blessed spiritually.

Mrs. & Mr. O. James Meyyan, Athipattu :

He reports that the general tendency among the tribal is not to hear the gospel message out of sincerity. These people will gather in good numbers only if they are

benefited by getting free food, clothes, money etc. Of course, we cannot expect any spectacular change among the tribal people all of a sudden. The gospel message in these parts will not go in vain and a change of heart of the tribal people will be gradual. Let us pray that the gospel messages in this area yield good fruits as seeds sown on good lands.

Rev. R. R. Vyas, Mr. C. Devanesan & Mr. Gunasekaran, Basai :

Now that it is the summer vacation for schools, the evangelists have chosen to tell the Good News to the students of the local High School in the evenings. Ten students are keenly interested in hearing the message and in reading the tracts. Of them one Ramesh Kumar has received a New Testament.

In Chinnavari village the people worship a Hindu deity Jagathamma. In this area the evangelists have gone from house to house and distributed tracts. The contacts made by them have brought about a change and people want to know more about Jesus Christ.

In Thilak Nagar, one Mr. Chowdri has expressed that he is really pleased to know that the evangelists are residing in his area and has requested to specially pray for him and his family.

Mrs. & Mr. D. Prabhudas, Bijapur :

Bible study is conducted regularly. Bennappa and S. C. Gunappa of Rampura village and Mr. Malingappa, Ramesh and Rabindra of Hitinahalli village who have heard the Gospel message are ready to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Pray that they may grow in their faith.

Mrs. & Mr. Immanuel, Belghana :

He reports that during the month he visited 19 villages and in every place he visited, he made it a point to make personal contacts of the people in their houses. Many, when contacted personally expressed their belief in God but

this belief is only momentary in that they switch back to their old belief and faith in their gods. Their God is 'Ram' and their priests preach them to worship only 'Ram' and not to follow 'Jesus Christ'. The evangelists, of late, face stiff opposition from the public and they are often threatened to leave the place and go back to their native place They are being harassed and they are not able to do their work peacefully. Uphold these young evangelists who are very far away from their parents and kith and kin to do His work for His glory.

Mr. P. Moses, Mr. Bikram Barik, Mrs. & Mr. Pappachan, Mr. K. P. Jacob, Bihar Shariff :

Mr. T. Pappachan and his wife have come to this mission field on transfer from Kulathupuzha in Kerala State. In Bihar-Shariff 60% of the population are Hindus and the rest 40% Muslims. People of both these religious beliefs are being contacted.

Dr Sulaimon in Govt. Hospital Bihar-Shariff is interested in knowing about Jesus Christ. So also Mr. Manohar an educated gentleman has the thirst to know about our living Lord and the way of salvation from sins.

In Kashochak Village, Mr. Rajeswar Prasad who was hearing the message in an open air meeting came forward and expressed his desire to go through the Bible and that he would purchase a full text of the Bible from them.

Mrs. & Mr. Sampath James & Mr. Skariachan, Lukkimpurkheri :

In this area this is the harvest season for wheat crops. Hence it is difficult to meet people in their homes. However, the use of megaphone given to the evangelists made them to give the gospel message in places where the people gather in the evenings after the days work They visited the hospitals and prayed for the sick.

A 65 year old man named Swruray Singh in Patqiruva village is firm in his belief in Jesus Christ and he wanted

the evangelists to pray for him. Ten persons in Pansadia and Chunraj villages have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Remember all these individuals in your prayers.

Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Mrs. & Mr Ramana, Mrs. Laxmi & Mrs. Mariamma, Mr. Daud Sagar, Puri :

One Gazetted Officer (name not mentioned) has expressed to the evangelists that there must be some hidden power in Christians as otherwise one third of the World's population cannot be Christians. He has been given a Holy Bible and some other books. Pray for this officer that he too may come under the fold of Lord soon. The entire team spent two days in Pavadeep and conducted nine meetings to impart the message of our Lord. There was good attendance at these meetings. Rev. Paul Sanjeevi had an opportunity to give a message in Baptist Church, at Khunda about the work done by NMS in the various mission fields to spread His Kingdom.

Mr. Daniel Bal, Khamdong, Sikkim :

He writes: Due to heavy rain, almost all the roads were closed and in spite of this, he was able to visit certain villages, viz., Thanusingh, Tasa, Manedada, Ralep and Dipudada. and share the love of Jesus with the people of those villages. One family in Benthasingh Basty School accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Mr. Padam Bahadur Darje and his family who accepted Christ are waiting for baptism. Let us pray that they may be firm in the Lord. Worship Service and Sunday School are being conducted regularly.

Mr. B. S. Lepcha, Rhenock, Sikkim :

He has done follow-up work by sharing the gospel with those people who were contacted previously, and by distributing tracts to them. Many people are eager to know the love of Jesus Christ. A Brahmin girl named Shoba in Tarethany village and a lady at Rhisi accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour, but they have some obstacles from their society. Let us pray for those new believers.

NEW BRANCHES OF NMS

We are pleased to inform that the following new branches of NMS have been set up :

1. NADIAD BRANCH (GUJARAT) : (With the help of Mr. F. S. Charles)

President : Shri C. R. Solanki, Secretary : Shri Joseph D. Parmer, Treasurer : Kum. Anupama V. Hunter, Members : M/s. Smita Ben Christopher, Shanta Ben J. Parmar, Pramila Ben E. Thakore, Bhailal Bhai Christian, Anilkumar L. Thakore, Mithalal V. Macwon, Nityanand E. Macwon.

2. TRIVANDRUM MEDICAL COLLEGE BRANCH (KERALA) (With the help of Rev. John Jayaraj, NMS Organising Secretary)

President : Rev. K. S. Mathew, Vicar, Trinity Marthoma Church, Vice President : Mr. K. M. Mathai, Secretary : Mr. P. P. Philip, Treasurer : Dr. M. O. Varughese, Members : M/s. O. P. Philip, K. J. George and C. T. Mathew.

3. CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLGE HOSPITAL NMS BRANCH (TAMIL NADU) (With the help of Mr. R. Stanley Mohan, NMS Missionary on deputation)

Secretary & Treasurer : Mr. S. Jernas, Joint Secretary : Mr. Sam Christopher, Members : M/s. Sam Thyagarajan and Miss Jeba.

4. NMS MALLIHABAD BRANCH-LUCKNOW (U.P.) (With the help of Mr. Victor Maurice Robinson, NMS Organising Secretary)

President : Dr. Godwin P. Das, Secretary : Mrs. Romila Layall, Treasurer : Miss Cathrine Venus Paul, Jt. Treasurer: Mr. Johnson George. Members : Mrs. P. Dayal, Mr. H.

Layall, Mr. S. Layall, Mr. V. Layall, Mrs. T. Mclene, Mrs. V. N. Ventura, Ex-officio: Rev. H. B. Ram, Pastor.

We are thankful to God for the involvement of all these members in the work of NMS in their respective places. May God Almighty bless the Committees and congregation for their efforts and activities for His Glory.

Retreat and The Hostel Day Programme

A retreat for the new believers in Jawadhi Hills was conducted on Ist and 2nd August 1987. We expected about 150 new believers to come together, but due to rain in the Hills only 45 people turned up for the retreat. The retreat was conducted by the General Secretary. Mr. Thondaiman and Mr. George Raja of Tirupathur Ashramam (Ex. NMS Evangelists) and Mr. Walter assisted the General Secretary in conducting the retreat for the believers.

A retreat was conducted for the Hostel girls also from 31st July to 2nd August 1987. Two sisters from the B. C. M. led the Hostel students in the retreat.

On the 2nd morning 6 people were baptised by Rev. Christopher, the Chairman of the Pastorate unit. The Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah, Vice President of the N. M. S. (Ex. Bishop of Vellore) confirmed 9 people and they were accepted to the fellowship of the Church. Let us continue to pray for the new believers.

Dedication of the Water Tank and the Evangelist's House

A Water Tank was constructed in the N.M.S. Campus at Jamnamarathur to irrigate the land and to bring water facilities to the Hostel by the Kerala friends of the N.M.S.

The Executive Committee Members from Kerala promised to raise the necessary funds for constructing the water tank, from their friends in Kerala. The work was entrusted to Mr. V. K. Eappen, Mr. K. Chandy and Mr. K. M. Mathew. They raised the required funds from their friends and the area committee in Kerala. The Trivandrum area committee donated a good amount for this purpose. We thank God for their service. The work was supervised by Mr. K M. Mathew. Being an engineer he himself laid the pipeline. Mr. David Suresh, the Organising Secretary, assisted Mr. K M. Mathew in the work. The Kerala friends have shown their interest in raising the support for the Hostel girls, and we thank God for them.

Water tank was dedicated on 1st August 1987 by the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah, Vice President of the N·M.S. The old Chapel was renovated with additional room with bathroom and kitchen and these were dedicated on the same evening by the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah. The supervision of the work was carried out by Mr. K. M. Mathew and Mr. David Suresh. We also thank the local evangelist Mr. P. Devairakkam for doing all the necessary work in purchasing and in getting the labour for the work. We thank God for the friends who did a lot of service for these two projects.

HOSTEL DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Tribal girls Free Hostel in Jamnamarathur was started in 1981 with 4 girls as reported in the May 1987 issue of the N.M.I. The Hostel Day celebration was held on 1st August under the Chairmanship of the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah.

Mr. R. Alfred the Area Secretary welcomed the visitors and the gathering. The following greeted the Hostel students.

Mr. V. G. Williams, Hon. Asso. General Secretary

Mr. M. D. Selvaraj, Hon. Treasurer

Rev. Christopher, Chairman of the Pastorate unit

Mr. S. V. Thondaiman (Ex. Evangelist of NMS) and the General Secretary gave brief report of the Hostel. The Chairman in his address expressed about the purpose of the hostel. The Hostel Girls presented different programmes which were inspiring to the people who gathered there. Mr. & Mrs. Isaac from Madras were present at the function and they were greatly encouraged by the work which is going on in the Jawadhi. Mr. Winfred Joacquim, Executive Committee member of the N. M. S. was with us during these days. The Chairman of the Pastorate Unit gave Rs. 1000/- for the expenditure of the retreat from the Pastorate. We thank God for all these friends who participated in the programme.

General Secretary

NMS Revival Meeting at Kanchipuram

The NMS Committee of Kanchipuram Branch has arranged a Revival Meeting to be held at the C.S.I. Church Kanchipuram, at 6-30 p.m. daily from 28th to 30th August, 1987 with the co-ordination of the Church Presbyter, Rev. Kirubakaran Daniel, and the Church Committee.

Speaker : The Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH,
General Secretary
NMS

This Branch will also be conducting a mini Sale on SUNDAY, 30th August 1987, to raise funds for the NMS work.

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FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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OBITUARY

Mr. D. Kanthiah Babu, Rajapalayam :

Mr. D. Kanthiah Babu, Brother of Mr D. C. Chellappa Sunderaraj, Secretary of NMS Rajapalayam Branch, had his Home Call on 10th March 1987. He was a staunch supporter of the Society.

The NMS remembers his involvement in its work.

Mr. M. B. Lall, Jhansi :

Mr. M. B. Lall, Father of Mr. J. B Lall, one of our supporters passed away on 14-6-1987 after a brief illness.

Mrs. Paul, Jhansi :

Mrs. Paul, wife of Mr. A. W. Paul, Jhansi slept in Jesus on 17-6-1987. She was a supporter of NMS. Her husband Mr. A. W. Paul is an active member of NMS of Jhansi Area.

May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of the above families.

ERRATA

Please read page 16 of June 1987 issue (Vol. 80—No. 6) Obituary—Mr. P. V. Mathew, F/o Mr. P. George Mathew, and Mr. Sundaram, F/o Mr. John Karunakaran.

Edited and published by Rev. J. M. Jayasingh at NMS House, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014 and Printed by Mr. K. V. Jacob at Bapuji Press, Madras-600002

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NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600014. Telephone : 87314

MEDITATION

Reaction on the Resurrection Day

(Continued)

Matt. 28:11~15. Silencing the news.

The women who went to the tomb were afraid and they were rejoicing because their Lord and Saviour was resurrected. In the midst of the mixed reaction they went out quickly and reported the news to the people.

The tomb was sealed and guarded (Matt. 27:62-66). The High Priests and the Pharisees who heard Jesus' saying on His resurrection (Lk. 24:46) had real doubts. They were the people who had faith in God and in resurrection. Now they did not want that Jesus should be resurrected. So, they wanted to make it sure that the tomb must be sealed.

We may note a few things from this incident of silencing the resurrection news :

1. They remembered His saying on His resurrection. They knew what He had told, which indicates, that they were listening to what Jesus preached.

2. Though they knew the word of God, they very much doubted on the resurrection of Jesus. They told Pilate, "Give Orders, then, for his tomb to be carefully guarded until the third day so that his disciples will not be able to go and steal the body, and then tell the people that he was raised from death. This last lie would be even worse than the first one" (Matt. 27 : 64). They thought that the disciples would go in and take away the body, but the fearful disciples were hiding themselves.

3. They were capable of influencing the Roman authorities to get orders as per their wish. They achieved it in crucifying Jesus and now they got the permission to seal and guard the tomb (Mt. 27:65). As they desired

and as per the orders received they did everything to secure that the tomb may not be opened by anyone.

4. The tomb was opened contrary to their plans. The nature could not be controlled by the seal and guards. It is noted that there was violent earth quake on the third day and an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled the stone away and sat on it' (Mt. 28:2).

This event was unexpected by every one, including the followers of Jesus, as it is clear that the women who came to the tomb, talked to one another "who will roll the stone for us."

5. No human authority and power can control the Authority and Power of God. He was and is in control of situations and nature. No Government can chain God and keep His word arrested. What had happened was only as per His word (Lk. 24:46). The Psalmist says "For He spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm" (Psalm 33:9). God's word has power to remove obstacles, power to give life and power to change things. This can be experienced in our daily life, if we trust in His word.

6. The news of resurrection was reported to the Chief Priests in the city. When the women went out rejoicing telling about the resurrection news, the soldiers who were guarding the tomb went into the city and explained to the Chief Priests of what happened. The Chief Priests were also told the news of resurrection, but it was not at the command of Jesus, but only as a group were the eye witness to the incident. The soldiers too had the opportunity of witnessing the resurrection of Jesus. They told what they had seen. By this they were trying to prove their helplessness in guarding the tomb They had experienced the power of God.

7. The guards were silenced by money. The Chief Priests and elders met and directed the guards to bear false witness against the resurrection. They were instructed to speak lies. The religious leaders and chief priests who

stocd in the temple for people instigated the poor soldiers to speak lies (Mt. 28:12-14). They also undertook to convince the Governor. They were capable of instigating and influencing. The guards were also bribed. The religious leaders bought Judas to betray Jesus by money. They forced Pilate to crucify Jesus. They made the soldiers to tell lies and bribed them.

Influence and money can destroy the truth and innocent people. Are we influenced by power and money and ultimately we use them for the destruction of others and bear false witness against our Master? How often money plays an important role in bringing down a Christian, including the people in the full-time ministry from the faith. There are Christians in Government who do not wish to identify as Christians, but in the Church they have church memberships. Are they not betraying the truth? They do this for promotion and money. Will money and power give us eternal life?

Let not money and power corrupt us in living and witnessing for Jesus.

Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH

N. B. This series on the reaction on the Resurrection day is concluded but a new series "After the Resurrection" will begin in the next issue".

AN APPEAL

A new brief size typewriter (Remington or Godrej or Facit) is urgently needed for use in the NMS Headquarters at 206, Peters Road, Madras-600 014.

Those who are inspired by our Lord for Missionary Work for His glory may send their contributions to the Hon. Treasurer, NMS of India, 206, Peters Road, Madras-600 014.

General Secretary

Letter from the General Secretary

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We are coming to the end of October and we all look forward for the Christmas season in December. Christmas is a time of joy, a time of family get-together, a time of worshipping together, and at the same time it is a time when we share our joy and fellowship with one another in the family and with others in the neighbourhood. As we look forward to Christmas let us also remember the real sacrifice which God has made in sending His only begotten Son to this world to take the human form and to live and die for the world in order to redeem the world from the domination of sin.

We also request you to share your happiness through the Christmas Cheers to the NMS workers who are labouring in different parts of this country.

The South Indian NMS Workers Retreat: As informed earlier, the Retreat for the NMS Workers in South India was held from 26th to 29th Sept '87 at Jamnamarathur in Jawadhi Hills which is one of our evangelistic centres. About 60 of them, including the Organising Secretaries of Kerala and Tamilnadu came together. A few of them brought their wives and children. It was a joy to meet everyone of them. It was a time of fellowship and sharing. We prayed for one another and God did miracles particularly in healing the 1½ years old child of Mr & Mrs. Mahimaidas who are serving

in NMS Gangavaram Centre among the Koyas of East Godavari District in Andhra. The child was suffering from brain fever. Her neck was not strong and she was not able to stand up and walk. All of us prayed for the child and the very next day the child started crawling and tried to stand up by holding on to something and we praised God for this. Please pray that this child may be completely cured and restored to normal health.

There are many people who prayed for the Retreat and contributed. Two years ago we received about Rs. 3500/- from the Rev. George Isaac, Chaplain of CMC Hospital for this particular project. We are thankful to everyone who has contributed for this purpose. The Rev. Chandrasekaran of the Madras Diocese and Mr. D. W. Herbert of Tanjore helped us in the Retreat by bringing the Lord's message and in the evening we had a public meeting for the local Christians.

One-Day Youth Retreat at Madras: A Youth Retreat was held on the NMS Sunday on 11th Oct. '87 at the Good Shepherd Church at Mylapore. It was a combined programme of the NMS Madras City Area Committee and the Good Shepherd church. Mr. Augustine Asir of the Youth for Christ brought the messages on the following subjects:- Meeting Jesus, Walking with Jesus and Witnessing Jesus. People from different walks of life who had such experiences shared their testimonies with the Youth. Mrs. Leela Sampath led the Youth in singing and we are thankful to the Good Shepherd Church, particularly Rev. R.M. Dravyam for his involvement in the work of the NMS. The Good Shepherd Church is supporting Miss Vasanthakumari David who is working in Kagal.

Convention in Dehra Dun: The General Secretary of the NMS was invited to minister the Word of God at the Festival of Life Convention held at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Dehra Dun. I had the privilege of ministering the word of God at the Methodist Church in Dehra Dun. On the way back I met a few friends in Delhi and in Allahabad.

Retreat for the NMS Workers in 1988: It is very strongly felt that we should bring together the NMS Workers and their families for the time of fellowship and sharing once in a year. So it is suggested to have a Retreat for North and South separately during 1988. It will cost us about Rs. 40,000/-. Already our financial position is affected due to various reasons. The expenditure has gone up but the income has not increased. But I thank God for the faithful people who faithfully pray and contribute for the work.

Musical Rally: A Musical Rally in Madras was organised by one of the Area Committees of the NMS Madras City Area Committee. Young people from different churches participated in the rally and the St. Paul's Church Youth presented a skit in reaching the unreached. It was held at the Methodist Church, Purasawalkam on 24th Oct. '87. We thank God for the people who organised this programme.

The NMS Sunday: I am given to understand that a good number of Churches had observed the NMS Sunday all over the country and there are several Bishops and Church-Heads who have given directions to the Presbyters in their jurisdiction to observe the NMS Sunday and take special offering and we praise God for each one of them and we thank God for their kindness in requesting the churches to observe the NMS Sunday. It is requested that all those who have observed the NMS Sunday and taken special offering for the NMS work may kindly forward the same to the Headquarters. We shall try to publish the NMS Sunday collections in the NMI

'Struggle': We know there are still struggles going on in Punjab and in Srilanka. Let us pray that the Spirit of God may prevail over eyeryone in this land of ours and in the neighbouring countries to love one another and care for one another. May the Spirit of God continue to guide the leaders of our nation.

Prayer Request :

1) Pray for Rev. Paul Dos of Allahabad who had been in the NMS Executive as Vice-President for several years whose hip was broken due to fall and was operated in the Medical College Hospital at Allahabad. Please pray for his recovery. As I met him personally he requested me to convey his greetings to the NMS members.

2) The NMS President, the Rt. Rev. I. P. Andrews and his wife met with an accident at Pune sometime in the early part of September. They had some bruises. Please pray for the Bishop and his wife.

3) Please pray for the complete recovery of Mr. & Mrs. Mahimaidas' child Jeyakumari.

4) Please pray for Mrs. John Jayaraj, wife of Mr. John Jayaraj, NMS Organising Secretary. She met with an accident while travelling on a scooter and a tree fell down and hit her head. She was treated in Medical College Hospital in Trivandrum but it is learnt that she is losing her eye-sight, hearing and sense of smell.

5) Pray for the trainees who are undergoing training in Yavatmal.

6) Pray for Miss Kokila Rebecca whose recovery is very slow.

7) Pray for the ones who are serving in the cold areas during this winter season.

With prayers and best wishes,

Yours in His Service,

J. M. JAYASINGH

General Secretary

FIELD REPORTS

Mrs. & Mr. Immanuel, Belghana, Madhya Pradesh :

They narrate the following after visiting a new village "Guruwar gebera: They saw two men sitting on the veranda of their house while they were distributing tracts door to door in Guruwar gebera. They shared the gospel with them and a man who was sleeping next door, suddenly got up and came to them. He asked them many questions suspecting that they were child lifters. He informed others that thieves have come to kidnap the children as this was prevalent in the nearby villages.

Meanwhile, people came and surrounded them. Two women shouted and said to the crowd that they are really thieves. The ones with whom they shared the gospel also had doubt on them. In this delicate situation, without knowing what to do next, they prayed.

Fortunately, a man to whom they gave a tract on their way to this village while he was fishing, came there and lulled the crowd by saying that they are servants of God and not child-lifters. A woman suddenly stood up from the crowd and informed the people that she had seen one of them frequently preaching at Belghana. Then, there was silence in the crowd. Later, some of them asked the Evangelists to tell them about Jesus Christ. Responding to this, they shared the gospel with them, and safely returned home.

Let us thank God for His protection of the Evangelists at the time of their troubles and also praise God for the opportunity they had to preach the gospel to the people in the new village. Please pray that the Spirit of God may work in the hearts of those who heard the Gospel and bring them to the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Miss Salina Rekha, Ludhiana, Punjab :

She writes that during the month she visited some new villages and preached the gospel through open-air

meetings. More than 2000 tracts were distributed and the villagers bought 150 gospel portions. She requests us to pray for Mr. Mohit Lal that he may come tc know the Lord in a more personal way.

Mrs. B. S. Lepcha, Rhenok, Sikkim :

He has reported that he contacted some non-Christian families and explained them about the love of Christ. He has done follow-up work by sharing the gospel to the believers who were contacted before and distributed tracts to them. He also shared the gospel with some patients to believe in Jesus Christ. They are eager to know the love of Jesus Christ. Let us pray for the believing patients and those friends who were contacted.

Mr. P. Moses, Mr. Bikram Barik, Mrs. & Mr. Pappachan, Mr. K. P. Jacob, Bihar Shariff, Bihar :

During the month they visited 12 villages around their station, contacted 135 persons and distributed tracts to the people. In Banhuliya village they preached the gospel to Muslims and T.B. patients. One R. C. Sister also accompanied the Evangelists during their house visits. They also visited some new villages, viz. Doiya, Uparma, Baripahari, Allinagar and Chottimaraga which they never went before due to lack cf communication, and proclaimed the gospel effectively to the people. Please remember these people in your prayers

Mrs. & Mr. Sampath James & Mr. Skarlachan, Lukimpurkheri, Uttar Pradesh :

In this area, people are not interested to hear the gospel, as their hearts are hardened due to drought and failure of crops. However, the Evangelists visited 15 villages and told the gospel to them. But some of them asked the evangelists to grant them funds for drought relief. They also shared the gospel with R.S.S. friends and gave them a handbook contained the life of Jesus. They visited the hospitals and distributed tracts. One

Ahmed Singh in Soonpur village professed to accept the Lord as his Saviour. Pray for the evangelists to be courageous in the name of Jesus Christ and face the obstacles.

Mr. Daud Sagar, Noliyasahi, Orissa :

He writes that by the grace of God, the work in that area is going on smoothly. He has taught Christian songs and memory verses to the School children. While he was distributing the tracts, a man named Mr. Muni Babu encountered him with questions. The evangelist answered his questions and shared the gospel with him. Please pray that he may accept the Lord as his Saviour. He also contacted 30 believers and distributed 319 tracts. Let us uphold his ministry through our prayers.

Mr. & Mrs. D. Prabhudoss, Bijapur, Madhya Pradesh :

They visited 12 villages and presented the gospel to the people. Mr. Prabhudoss approached the Headmaster of the Hittinahalli High School to get permission for sharing the gospel with the school children. Please pray that his efforts may succeed and many children come to know the Lord by his ministry. In Allahpur village, the evangelist prayed for a woman named Mrs. Valubai who was possessed and she was relieved from that spirit. Please pray that she may accept Jesus Christ as her Saviour.

Mr. Godfrey B. Soans & Rev. D, W. Sanjiva, Hebri, Karnataka :

During the month they contacted 10 families and conducted prayer meetings in their houses. The evangelists met 30 persons and gave them the message of God's Salvation. They informed that there was no disturbance from the R.S.S. friends at present. They prayerfully distributed 67 tracts and 5 gospel porions. They concentrate on follow-up work, so as to reach the ones with whom they shared the gospel. They requested us to pray that their efforts may succeed and many may be added to the Kingdom of God.

TAMIL NADU

THE 10-CENTRES IN JAWADHI HILLS

1. Mrs. & Mr. Devairakkam, Jamnamarathur :

They report that the Lord has enabled them to visit 11 villages and present the gospel to the tribal people. Mr. Kanakaneri and Mr. Vellian heard the gospel eagerly. Please pray for them. Mr. Anbunathan's son, Jayakumar who was at the point of death was saved through prayers. Let us thank God for hearing our prayers.

2. Mr. James Meyyan, Athippattu :

He visited 14 villages and preached the word of God. He conducted Bible studies and expounded the scriptures in order to make the people to understand the word of God properly. He informs that he was able to contact 220 tribal people and present the gospel. Please pray for their salvation.

3. Mrs. & Mr. Jesudoss, Kalyanamanthai :

They inform that during the month they visited the believers' houses, and God has opened a door to conduct cottage prayer meetings. They also visited the Forest Elementry School and presented the gospel message to 180 pupils. Mr. Govindan and his wife are ready to take baptism. Please pray for this family and believers.

4. Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel, Gundalathur :

They write that they visited Alangayam, Nellumarathur, and Thambarooti villages to proclaim the Gospel. In Alangayam a political leader who had doubts on Christianity was evinced by the evangelist. Please pray for his salvation. One rich man named Arisivam also heard the gospel, and he promised to meet the evangelist to discuss about the Lord. Pray that he may be touched by the Lord.

5. **Mrs. & Mr. Robert John, Veerapanoor :**

They visited 14 villages during this month and preached the gospel. There are 42 houses and about 1800 people are living in Kudigam village, but they have no educational facilities for their children. Let us pray that the Lord may open a door for their education.

6. **Mr. William Soundaraj & Mr. John Soundarajan, Nadanur :**

They report that they contacted 80 people, and they eagerly heard the gospel. In Kampet village they presented the gospel to the tribal people through songs, stories, and Bible verses Worship services and Sunday classes are being conducted regularly. Pray for their salvation.

7. **Mr. K. Vijayan, Kattian Kudisai :**

The Evangelist writes that he contacted 26 persons and 9 families during the month and Gospel was presented by personal evangelism. Let us pray for Velliyan, Appasamy, Vellikan, and Rajammal that they may prepare themselves for baptism.

8. **Mr. E. F. Bernard Shaw, Thongumalai :**

He was able to visit several places for the sake of the gospel. Due to heavy rain, the roads were blocked and in spite of this, he visited the believers. He informs that the Lord has done a miracle at Thongumalai village. A woman who was possessed and bed-ridden for months, had divine healing through prayers. Her mother and husband requested the evangelist to pray for them. As a result of this miracle, the whole family started believing the Lord. Let us pray that they may stand firm in the Lord.

9. **Mr. P. Babu Karunya Giri & Mr. S. J. Michael, Allery :**

They inform that proclamation of the gospel was effectively done among the unreached tribal people. They

conducted prayer meetings in 15 houses. The Spirit of God is really moving upon Allery village. The people voluntarily came forward to have prayer meetings in their houses, and also coming to Church regularly. Let us thank God for His mighty movement at Allery.

10. **Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews, Pudur Nadu:**

They write that they contacted some new persons, one of them, Mr. Arunachalam accepted Jesus as his personal Saviour and bought a New Testament. In Killur village one Nagappan professed to accept the Lord as his Saviour. Please pray for the enquirers in Pudur Nadu and Killur village to be strengthened and encouraged to obey the Lord and grow in their faith and knowledge.

CONGRATULATIONS

We feel proud that Mr. D. Swaminathan, Headmaster, St Andrew's Higher Secondary School, Arkonam (North Arcot District), and Mr. William, Headmaster, St Peter's Higher Secondary School have been awarded the "Best Teacher" Merit by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

They are not only proficient in the teaching profession, but are staunch supporters of the NMS also, collecting money regularly for the Missionary work in reaching the unreached people of our land. Mr. William used to put a stall at the NMS Annual Sales every year and thereby raising more than Rs. 1000/- through the stall.

We wish and pray that the Lord may bless them and their families abundantly in all respects and also to bless them to be the best teachers in the years to come.

General Secretary

A SPECIAL REQUEST FOR CHRISTMAS CHEERS

During December we usually send Christmas gifts to the NMS Workers who are working in far interior places in different parts of our country, through the donations received from well-wishers. Last year we were able to give Rs. 275/- to single persons and Rs. 550/- to families. On behalf of the Society, I request you to kindly send your contributions/collections for Christmas Cheers to the Hon. Treasurer, NMS of India, 206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014, earmarking as "Christmas Cheers to the NMS Workers", before 10th of Dec. 1987.

We do not encourage direct gifts to the N.M.S. Workers.

General Secretary

OBITUARY

Mrs. S. Joseph, wife of Late Rev. J. P. Joseph of Rangoon and mother of Mr. Nulraj Joseph, a prominent member of the NMS Madras City Area Committee had her Home Call on 15th Oct. 1987 at the age of 94 and her mortal remains intered at the Kilpauk Cemetery on 16th October.

She was a regular supporter of NMS and we praise God for her life and witness.

May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of this family.

NORTH TAMIL AREA NEWS & EVENTS

Ooty Sales :

In the queen of the Hills on 7th August 1987, NMS had its another day of gathering. The three CSI churches and their Pastorate Committee took all the initiatives in the conduct of the Sale.

Rev. M. Devadass, Presbyter CSI Wesley Church presided over the scrvice, and Mr. V. T. Abraham brought the day's message with his experiences of missionary work. Rev. B. Jeromes, Presbyter of St. Stephen Church, and President of the local branch of NMS declared open the sale.

The participation of the local Christians at different levels, with varieties of things added beauty to the whole show. The keen efforts of Rev. B. Jerome, President, Mr. J. Samuel, Secretary and the co-operation of the Correspondent and Headmistress of the CSI Hobbart School are highly appreciated.

Coonoor Sale :

The Bells of the 40th Anniversary of our Nation's Independence Day was filling the air throughout the hill town. The politicians and Government machinery clad in their glamour to observe this Great Day. On the other corner, was all the arrangements for the missionary sale getting its finality.

The clock striking eleven, the Chief Guests and distinguished gathering crept into the campus of CSI Middle School Mission Hill Coonoor. Rev. E. G. Devanesan, Area Chairman and Chairman for Special Committee for Missionary Sale briefed about NMS and highlighted its working relationship with the organised churches and underlined the purpose of conduct of Sale. Shri. Bhasi I. Ipe, Manager, Kothary Estates Group declared open the Sale and Shrimathi Ipe made the first Sale.

The co-operation of the CSI and Marthoma Churches at the local level in Estate area and in Kotagiri area was a kind gesture of them which added a glow to the whole show.

The co-ordination of the special Committee's Chairman, Rev. E. G. Devaram, Secretary, Mrs. Nancy Gunasingh, Miss L. V. P. Devanesan, an old stalwart of NMS, the local branch, executive member, Mr. Sundararaj, Mrs. Grace Dinakaran, Mr Wann Prabhakar, Mr. Mammen and Mr. Robinson spared no efforts in making the Missionary Sale a grand success.

The leadership in each stall by the men and women of the local churches, the games stall by Mr. Asir and friends of CMS kept the participants in a mood of excitement and going.

NMS takes its opportunity to thank all the Presbyters, one and all for the keen and active participation. A total sum of Rs. 12,000 has been raised through the sales.

KOTAGIRI BRANCH FORMATION

Greenery of Tea shrubs! Chilling-climate! Town getting off itself, dusk setting in. A handful of chosen sitting on the pews of St. Lukes Church and Rev. Paul Jayasingh offered the opening prayers. Mr. Moses, NMS Missionary, exhorting the assembled with the responsibiities ahead of them both individually and collectively. The Organising Secretary of the area, Mr. David Suresh underlined the need of branch formation and the following were elected as the Executive Committee Members of the NMS Kotagiri Branch.

President: Rev. V. Ebenezer Mani, Vice-President: Rev. Paul Jayasinghdoss, Secretary: Mrs. Beaula Ranjit Singh, Treasurer: Mr. Bhaktan Thiyagaraj, Jt. Secretary: Mr Pushparaj, Committee members: Mr. P. S. Devaraj, Mr. R. Devadoss, Mr. Robert, Mr. Thiyagaraj, Mrs. Janaki Sounderaraj, Mrs. Neil Andi, Mr Balraj, Mr. Stephen, Mr. D. J. S. Dhas.

DAVID SURESH,
NMS Organising Secretary for North Tamil Area.

Contributions to "Christmas Cheers" received during 1986-87 (from 1-4-1986 to 31-3-1987)

	Rs.	P.
Rev. Joseph Duraikkan, Madras	2,500	00
Full Gospel Young Men Association, Vellore	500	00
Mr. M. J. Sargunam, Coimbatore	60	00
St. Stephen's Church, Korattur, Madras	246	35
Mr. V. P. Raju, Madras	25	00
Thro' Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, Madras (Delhi collection)	338	00
Mr. M. Theophilus, Vellore	25	00
Mr. I. Daniel, West Bengal	100	00
Thro' Rev. Jacob Vivekam, Katpadi	100	00
Mr. Veerendrakumar, Gorakhpur	200	00
Mr. I. M. Deenadayalan, Madras	10	00
Thro' Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, Madras	306	60
Mrs. O. Williams, Kota	50	00
„ Mercy Devasirvatham, Tuticorin	30	00
Sis. A. P. Thangammal, Mitchilipatnam	30	00
Mrs. Viola Durairaj, Cuddalore	10	00
Mr. C. P. Raj, Kottaram	10	00
Miss V. Shantha Luna, Bangalore	50	00
Mr. J. Gnanamani, Madras	100	00
Mr. E. Whiteley, Madras	200	00
Mr. J. Henry, Damoh	120	00
Mrs. J. Arulaiah, Trichy	100	00
Mr. Barun Kumar Saumi, Kota	100	00
Mrs. E. M. Sant Singh, Panchagam	50	00
Mr. D. J. Ratnaswamy, Madras	50	00
Mr. A. M. Daniel, Durga Dist. M.P.	1000	00
Mr. R. Purushothaman, Kulathupuzha	25	00
Mrs. Helena Herbert, Thanjavur	30	00
Thro' All Saints Church Ponmeni, Madurai	500	00
Thro' Rev. J. M. Jayasingh (Vellore Collection)	732	00
Mr. A. Isaac Jesudason Karankadri, K.K. Dist.	20	00
Mrs. & Mr. Y. J. Robinson Nagercoil	100	00
N.M.S. Evangelists :		
Mr. John Sounderarajan Nadanoor,	25	00
Mr. P. A. Charles	50	00
„ Robert John	25	00
Miss Kokila Rebeccah	50	00
Mr. P. Devairakkam	15	00
„ M. P. Andrews	25	00
Rev. A. Thiraviam	25	00
Mr. S. V. Jeyaraj Samuel	25	00
Mrs. Saramma Jeyaraj	20	00
Mr. O. James Meyyan	15	00
„ Vijayan	20	00
„ Francis Bernadsha	50	00
Rev. Paul Sanjeevi	25	00
Mr. G. A. Raju	25	00
„ R. V. Ramana	25	00
Mrs. R. V. Laxmi	25	00
Mr, Daud Sagar	25	00
Mrs. K. Mariyamma	30	00
Mr. V. T. Abraham	50	00
„ Daniel Bal	30	00
„ Birsingh Lepcha	30	00
„ T. Pappachan	25	00

Mr. Victor Henry	100	00
„ K. P. Paulose	50	00
„ J. C. James, Madras	25	00
Mr. Tahir Masih, Kashmir	50	00
„ W. Joacquim, Madras	145	00
Mr. M. Ponnusamy, Madras	15	00
Mr. S. Deva irakkam	150	00
„ Stevenson Pandian Madras	50	00
Mrs. Louis Pandian, Madras	50	00
Mr. Rajkumar Samuel, Madras	30	00
Mrs. K. Sathyanathan, Bangalore	25	00
Mr. K. J. Daniel, Ambalamedu	20	00
Thro' Rev. Paul Sanjeevi, Pentakota	200	00
Thro' Mr. David Suresh, Coimbatore		
Mr. Thomas 100 00 A Friend 25 00	125	00
Mr. G. V. Quadir, Lucknow	30	00
Mr. J. P. Ashwal, Bombay	50	00
Rev. G. I. Karkada „	25	00
Bombay Kannada Branch Bombay	500	00
Mr. O. Prakash Ashwal Bombay	100	00
Mr. James R. Soans Bombay	100	00
Mr. Vijaya Amanna Bombay	25	00
Mr. Vivek Salins, Bombay	100	00
Mr. D. Rajaratnam, Secundrabad	200	00
Mr. N. K. Biswas, M.P.	100	00
„ A. Alexander Samuel, Madras	50	00
Mr. S. D. Collison, Madras	20	00
Mr. S. J. Abraham, Tirunelveli	50	00
Mr. Henry Clarke, Madras	30	00
Mr. A. G. P. Devasigamani, Secundrabad	20	00
Mr. Daniel Victor, Sivakasi	10	00
Mr. D. Stanley Philip, Vellore	20	00
Mrs. Lily Gnanaraj, Madras	20	00
Smt. Rani Manesai, Madras	10	00
Mr. D. Jaganathan, Vellore	10	00
Dr. Rajan Samuel, Vellore	10	00
Mr. G. Rajeevan, Malappuram	100	00
Mr. R. Koilraj, Chidambaram	25	00
Mr. J. A. Roberts, Bombay	50	00
Mrs. K. Lazarus, Latteri	140	00
Thro' Mr. Stanley Mohan, Vellore	523	20
Mr. C. Nesaraj, Karur	25	00
Mr. D. Augustin, Madras	20	00
Mr. William Sounderaj, Nadanoor	50	00
Mrs. W. M. Mullar, Jaipur	100	00
Mr. Patras Prasad, Damoh	25	00
Mrs. M. Maharaj, Tirunelveli	25	00
Mr. M. Gnanapragasam, Tindivanam	35	00
Mr. G. W. Franklin, Kanpur	50	00
Mrs. C. Jason, Bangalore	50	00
„ Rajammal Samuel Bangalore	20	00
Mr. Gan Mitran, Madurai	10	00
Mr I Satyanata Sanjeev, Bangalore	75	00

Mr A Wilson, Madras	30	00
Mrs Saramma Zachariah, Singapore	300	00
Rev A Iyadurai, Anna Dist	50	00
Mrs C Bosman, Lucknow	20	00
Mr William, Kanpur	30	00
Miss M Barnabas, Varanasi, U P.	25	00
Mr N B Singh, Bombay	100	00
Sri K P Paul Vincent, Salem	200	00
Sri P Kanagarathinam, Salem	10	00
Mr R Daniel, Salem	10	00
Mr S Kanagarathinam, Salem	5	00
Sri M S Rajaiah, Salem	25	00
Mr. Wilson Sundaraj, Madras	100	00
Thro' Mr V P Raju, Madras	20	00
Mr G Gnanathangiah, Thanjavur	10	00
Mr Y A Ratnadoss, K K Dist	40	00
Miss P Jesudasan, Nagercoil	50	00
Mr R Y Samuel, Madurai	50	00
Rev Dr Jeans Jayachandran	50	00
Mr M John, Madras	25	00
Mrs Sheila Jayakumar, Madras	25	00
Mr Selvaraj, Madras	10	00
Mrs Divine, „	5	00
Mr J K Dharmasahayam, Madras	25	00
Mr S Barnes, Madras	10	00
Mr A S David, „	10	00
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Prof P G Dowie, „	10	00
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„ D Carter, „	5	00
Mrs. P. Carter, „	5	00
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Mr Noel Christian, Madras	20	00
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„ A Kirubagaran, Madras	15	00
Thro' Mr V P Raju, Madras	105	00
Mrs G P Devasagayam, Nagercoil	500	00
Thro' The Hon. Treasurer, Coimbatore Branch	3000	00
Mrs N B Singh, New Delhi	5	00
Mrs I D Dharani, Hariyana	10	00
C S I Meenambakkam Church	150	00
Mrs Mary Padmavathy, Trichy	300	00
Mr S A Siromani, Trichy	75	00
Madras:		
Mr Robert Moses,	25	00
Mrs Hanni Ravindran	25	00
„ Alice David	50	00
Mr G Devaraj	25	00
Pastor Samuel	5	00
Dr P Abraham	25	00
„ R V Moses	25	00

Dr S Doraisamy	25	00
Mr R Joseph	25	00
„ Vincent Solomon	25	00
„ Prabhu G J Devaraj	25	00
Mrs C J Manickam	25	00
Mr J Anandaraj	30	00
„ P S Moses	10	00
„ Thomasraj	10	00
„ F Israel	20	00
„ Jayasingh Paul	20	00
Dr E G R Solomon	20	00
Mr D Jayasingh	20	00
„ D Paul Lamech	20	00
Mrs Pramil Kumar	10	00
Miss J Moses	20	00
Mr J H D Samson	10	00
„ P G Balasingh	25	00
Mrs D Rajan	10	00
„ Premila Williams	10	00
Mr. Ezra Samuel	50	00
„ Ebenezer Edwin	10	00
„ G. Danielraj	10	00
„ D Boaz Solomon	100	00
„ G Jeyaraj	10	00
„ D S Kanagaraj	10	00
„ M M Sukumar	20	00
„ S Vincent	10	00
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„ Chandrasekar	10	00
„ D Devavaram	10	00
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Thro' Mr Barun Kumar Saumi, NMS Evangelist	100	00
Thro' Dr Sushil Packianathan, A.P.	450	00
Mr Joseph Jem Stephen Madras	75	00
Mrs Thankamani Jacob Madras	1000	00

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THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Phone: 87314

MEDITATION

AFTER THE RESURRECTION

Mary Magdalene meeting the resurrected Christ :

John 20:11-18, Matt. 28:9-10, Mark 16:9-11

Determined to see the body of Jesus, a few women who were the followers of Jesus came to the place, where His body was laid. Among them was Mary Magdalene. Mathew speaks about Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (Matt. 28.1). In Mark, we find Salome too (Mk. 16:1) where we find 3 women. Luke refers as they, women (Lk. 23:55-24:1). But in John 20:1 we find only Mary Magdalene. John was trying to highlight how Mary Magdalene met Jesus. It has to be observed that the women heard the message of Resurrection, and they went back to the disciples and informed of what they had seen and heard.

Here it has to be noted that John gives importance to individuals. As we read from the beginning of John's gospel, we find Jesus gave importance to individuals. With his personal contact with individuals, John highlights the importance, which Christ had given to the hungry hearts. A few examples are Peter, Andrew, John, Samaritan woman, blind man, woman caught in adultery, Nicodemus, Nathanael, Philip and so on Christ's concern is in transforming the lives of the individuals, changing their outlook and life style, forgiving their sins giving a new life; giving hope for the hopeless ones. That is brought out by John.

John speaks of Mary coming to the tomb early on the first day of the week when it was still dark. Mary was courageous in coming to the tomb early in the morning. That shows the love she had for her Saviour. Jesus was her Saviour because He had driven out seven evil spirits from her. She was possessed and Jesus was

her deliverer. He restored her from destruction and from the bondage of the evil spirits. She was grateful to her Saviour. The love which she had for Jesus made her to tear off the veil of fear. She forgot everything, but filled with the thought of Jesus alone.

When she came to the tomb, she found the stone by which the tomb was closed, was removed. Her, immediate reaction was to go back and inform His disciples of what she had seen and had been told. They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we do not know where they have put him" (John 20:2). To her thinking, someone had taken away the Body of Jesus. She expressed it to the angels who asked her 'Woman, why are you crying?' (vs.13)

It is noted in vs. 10, that the 'disciples went back home'. Though the disciples went back home, she remained in the garden near the tomb, and it is stated "Mary stood crying outside the tomb' (vs. 11). She was prepared to face any situation for her Lord. We find a woman caught in adultery was brought to Jesus and was accused but when Jesus asked those people to throw stones at her if they were sinless, nobody dared to do it. Hearing that, everyone left the place but the woman stood there (John 8:1-11). She could have gone along with the crowd. but she stood in front of Jesus and received forgiveness of sins. Mary came to the tomb and stood outside because she desired to know what had happened to Jesus. She had an inner desire to meet Christ herself. Being there she saw two angels sitting at the place where Jesus' body was laid. Mary saw Jesus, but she could not recognise Him as Jesus. She had no idea of seeing a living Jesus. because her understanding of scripture was limited. Even the disciples were not able to grasp what Jesus had told of His resurrection. Though Mary could not recognise Jesus, He knew her and asked her 'Woman, Why are you crying? Who is it that you are looking for?' Jesus volunteered in making enquiries about her well being. because He had concern about her. Also He was concerned about His followers. When we are worried, depressed, dejected and

faced with problems. He comes to enquire about our well being. He intervenes in our day-to-day life.

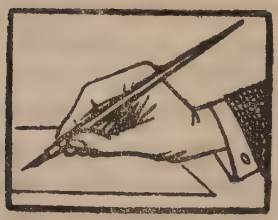
To her, the one who made enquiries was the care-taker, or gardener and she told him 'If you took Him away, Sir, tell me where you have put Him, and I will go and get Him' (Vs. 15). As soon as Mary told that she is prepared to get Him if she is told of what has happened to the body of Jesus, Jesus responded to her by calling her name, 'Mary'! It was a shock and surprise to her to hear the voice of her beloved Saviour. She too recognised Him as 'Teacher'! Because He was her Teacher, she understood His Voice. Though we do not recognise our Lord in our day-to-day life, He intervenes and He comes in to help us and He calls us by our name. He knows your problems; He is there with you recognising you, if you seek Him. Mary waited and sought forHim and was able to find Him.

She wanted to hold Him, to be with Him, to worship Him, to sing praises to Him, but she was told not to hold Him, but to go and proclaim of the experience she had with Jesus. We love to go for prayer meetings, worship services, festivals in the Churches, but not for proclaiming Him. We are ashamed to proclaim Him. A true experience with the Resurrected Jesus will make the Christian to go and proclaim.

Mary was given the command to go and tell the experience she had with Jesus. Peter and John did not have that privilege, because they did not wait. 'They went back home', but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. What is your cry today? He is there to meet you.

Rev. J. M. JAYASINGH

Letter from the General Secretary



Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We praise God for His blessings upon us in our day-to-day life and in the work of the Society. Kindly join me in praising God for the way in which He has wonderfully met our needs.

Annual Sale : The N. M. S. Annual Sale took place in Coimbatore, Madurai and Vellore on the 7th November 1987. I was present at the Vellore Annual Sale and it was the first time the NMS sale was organised in Vellore. The Moderator Commissary, Rt. Rev. H S. Thanaraj, presided over the function and encouraged the people to support the work of the Society. Dr. Pulimood, Director of the C M.C. Hospital, Vellore, was the Chief Guest who declared open the sale and exressed that he got involved in N.M.S. because his father who regularly prayed for the N.M.S. since the formation of the Society and supported.

In Coimbatore, the Rt. Rev. William Moses, newly consecrated Bishop in Coimbatore Diocese, and his wife were the Chief Guests.

Lucknow N.M.S. Convention: A convention was organised in Lucknow bv the Lucknow N M S. Branch. The Rev. O. J. Wilson (NMS Executive Member) of Jabalpur was the main speaker.

Miss Kokila Rebecca: This is to report that Miss Kokila Rebecca has been discharged from the Rehabilitation Centre, C.M.C. Vellore. She has to come back to the

hospital after three months. The report received from Tanjore is that she sits in the wheel chair and moves around and that she is cheerful. She is with her sisters. She needs your continued prayers.

News from the Field: We hear that there are oppositions from people in different Centres of our work. Kindly pray that the Lord may undertake everything for our evangelists who are in such difficulties.

Christmas Programmes: Christmas Programmes are being pianned in all the N.M.S. Centres and the people who watch these programmes may understand the love of Jesus.

Our Country: We need to pray for our nation and its leaders and also the leaders of different Political Parties. Let God's name be glorified and honoured in our nation.

Finance: It was reported by the Hon Treasurer at the Finance Committee Meeting held on 17—11—1987 that a sum of Rs. 1 28,000/- was borrowed from different funds to pay the Salaries and bills. This is an accumulated amount from April 1987. We request you to pray that the Lord may supply the needed funds to pay back the borrowed funds and for the needs of the current and coming months.

May God be with you and with your kith and kin.

With best wishes and prayers.

Yours in His Service

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

FIELD REPORTS

Mr. & Mrs. D. Prabhudoss, Bijapur :

They report that they visited Athoni, Allapur, Rampur, Hynapur, Jumnal, Hittnahalli villages. They found that 75% of the villagers, particularly in Athoni are still in their old customs and bad habits. A day's retreat was conducted in Athoni village and many young men and women confessed their sins when they heard the gospel message. Let us intercede for their salvation.

Mr. Godfrey Soans & Rev. D. W. Sanjiva, Hebri :

They visited 79 houses in 12 villages. During their personal evangelism, they met 7 persons and shared the gospel with them. They had a camp at Kokarne Kudubi and there was good response for gospel. The people requested the evangelists to conduct gospel meetings. They are eager to know the word of God. They also visited some new villages viz Chegari bettu, Baida bettu, Bencal Pademta, Holabail, Southekatte, Kannar. Please remember the people in these villages in your prayers.

Mrs. S. J. Michael, Allery:

During this month he visited 10 villages and presented the gospel to them. He was able to contact 120 persons individually with a message of God's salvation for them. By the impact of this ministry, there was great response among the youth and they showed interest in knowing the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr. I. Sampth James, Lukimpurkheri: He conducted gospel meeting in the evenings. Some young people volunteered to meet the sick with the Evangelist and presented the gospel through songs and bible stories. By using the Megaphone he conducted open-air-meetings in many places. Please pray for the ones who heard the gospel to accept the Lord as their personal Saviour.

Mrs. & Mr. Jeyaraj Samuel, Gundalathur :

They inform that Medical treatment was given to 164 patients. A young man who was suffering from dysentery was treated prayerfully. Now he is feeling much better. Let us pray for their salvation.

Rev. & Mrs. A. Thiraviam, Kandali Karagapatty :

They visited 15 villages and distributed 150 tracts to the people. The people bought New Testaments and Gospel portions. Every Friday people attend the Fasting Prayer meeting and receive the blessings of God. At Vathanapadi village, the persons who took baptism are put in harassment and insult by the people of that village. In spite of opposition, 15 more families came forward to take baptism. At Kandali village, a man named Mr. Venkatesh has two children aged 5 years but both of them are unable tc walk, speak and take normal food. Let us pray for these children and for the people as above.

Mr. P. Moses, Mr. Bikram Barik, Mrs. & Mr. Pappachan, Mr. K. P. Jacob, Bihar Shariff, Bihar :

They write about the progress in their work in new villages. 10 New villages around Bihar Shariff have been covered by them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The evangelists found that the villagers are very eager to hear the Gospel. The youth also responded to the Gospel. They also informed us that they are in need of a Megaphone to preach the gospel in open-air meetings. Let us pray for their need and for their work in the new villages.

Mr. William Soundararajan & Mr. John Soundararaj, Nadanur :

The Evangelists write that they visited 12 villages during the month and presented the gospel through open-air meetings and personal evangelism. They met the sick and prayed for them They presented the gospel through songs and Bible stories to the School children and two of the students attend Sunday Service.

Mrs. & Mr. C. Devanesan, Chakkarpur :

The Lord enabled this new couple to visit 16 villages and preach the gospel. The people in Kaibai and Simravari villages heard the gospel eagerly. Mr. Prabath Singh Pondila from Simraveri village after reading the New Testament showed his eagerness to accept Jesus Christ Let us pray for his Salvation.

Mrs. Bir Singh Lepcha, Rhenok, Sikkim :

He informed that during the month he visited the border of Bhutan and met some old friends and strengthened them in the Lord. There is still no freedom for preaching the gospel in Bhutan but yet the evangelists are trying to preach the gospel to the people there. Please pray for the Evangelist's efforts in the outreach work.

SPECIAL REQUESTS :

1. We used to give warm clothing allowance of Rs. 400/- each to the NMS workers serving in North India. Last year we paid this to a few of our missionaries. This year we want to send to another ten families, So, we need Rs. 4000/- for this purpose.

2. We are already in the middle of November. During December we usually send Christmas gifts to the N.M.S. workers in different parts of our country through the donations received from you. Last year we were able to give Rs. 275/- to single persons and Rs. 550/- to families. On behalf of the Society I kindly request you to send your contributions for Christmas cheers ear-marking as "Christmas Cheers to the N.M.S. Workers."

May our Heavenly Father be with you and bless you. Let your prayers be answered.

OBITUARY

Rev. Yusaf Singh, Delhi :

The Rev. Yusaf Singh, Parish Priest of Trans Yamuna Church, Delhi, had his Home Call on 18-8-1987 at the age of 70, following heart attack. He has left behind his ailing wife and grown up children and grand children. He was a regular contributor and pastoral supporter to NMS. He always allowed to have NMS Sunday whenever he was approached by the NMS Delhi Area Committee. He established most of the Methodist congregation of Trans Yamuna Church during his life time in Delhi.

Rev. Rhenius Doriappa :

The Rev. Rhenius Doraiappa. Washermenpet, Madras, had his Home Call on 2-10-1987. He was the Area Convener of the NMS Madras City North-East Area Committee and worked hard for raising funds for the work of the Society for His glory, and his services are remembered by us.

Mrs. Mary R. Packianathan :

Mrs. Mary R. Packianathan, wife of Mr. D. P. R. Packianathan, Mylapore, Madras, had her Home Call on 12-10-1987 at her 68th year. She was a regular supporter of NMSI and her demise is really a loss, particularly to NMSI.

Mrs. Suganthy Rajaratnam :

Mrs. Suganthy Rajaratnam, the beloved mother of Mr. Rufus R Jayakaran, Vice President, CSI Diocese of Vellore, passed away on 13-10-1987 at her 78th year. She was an active member and regular supporter of NMS and her services are remembered by us.

May the Lord console and comfort the bereaved members of the above families.

N. M. S. Sunday Collections up to 20th Nov. 1987

North Tamil Area :

	Rs.	Ps.
Through Mr. Stanly Mohan		
C S I Chittoor Church	518	35
C.S I. Katpadi Church	860	75
C.S.I Central Church Vellore	1475	20
Central Church Womens Fellowship Cell	550	00
C S I. Church CMC Colony, Vellore	101	50
C.S.I. Central Church, Vellore	80	00
C S I. Jamnamarathur	237	45
C.S I. Ida Scuddar Memorial Church, Bagayam	128	50
C.S I. Church Sathuvachari	61	00

Madras :

Mr. V. G. White Field	15	00
Mr. Francis Bernad Sha	217	00

Coimbatore :

Through Mr. David Suresh,		
C.S.I St. Paul's Church	277	75
C.S.I. Brough Church, Erode	500	00
C S.I. St Peter Christ Church	400	00
C S.I, Holy Trinity, Ooty	736	35
C.S.I. St. Thomas Church, Ooty	375	00
C.S.I. Wesly Church, Ooty	375	00
C S.I. Immanuel Church, Hasthampatti, Salem	680	00

Madurai-Ramnad :

Through Mr. Sukumar	686	40
Through Mrs. Edith K. Victor	582	35

Uttar Pradesh :

Through Mr. Victor Maurice Robinson	27	40
Thro. Mr. A. Khan, Methodist Agra Regional Conference	500	00
Through Rev. H. L. Nath	70	00
Through Rev K. E. Singh, Allahabad	65	00
Through Mr. A. B. David, Jhansi	113	75

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Orissa : Mr. G. Gangannan, Puri	100	00
Through Mr. Daud Sagar	50	00
Andhra Pradesh : Thro. Mr. B. David	40	00
Karnataka ;		
Thro. The Hon. Treasurer, Barkur Pastorate	30	00
Rev. A V. M Massey, Udaipur	360	00
Bihar : Rev. J. C. Murmu	43	00
Madhya Pradesh : C.N.I. Methodist Church, Thro. Mr. Suresh Malve	167	00
Methodist English Church	260	00
Through Mr. J. F. David (Bina)	76	00
Through Mr. S. C. Henry (Jabalpur)	580	00
Kerala :		
Through Rev. Mathew Marthoma Church, Kottarakara	35	00
Through Mr. P. P. Chackochan	110	00
	11,484	75

ALL INDIA CHRISTIANS CONFERENCE

All India Christians Conference will be held at Gurukul Campus, Madras, from the evening of 18th February to 20th evening. Registration fee of Rs. 25/- to be sent before 15—1—1988. Lunch will be provided to delegates on 19th & 20th. For particulars and registration, please contact the Conference Secretary, All India Christian Conference, I.C A., C.L S. Building, Madras-600 003 (Telephone 616 130).

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I will always thank the Lord ;
I will never stop praising Him. (Psalm 34 :1)

We wish you a Joyous Christmas and
A Prosperous New Year

THE NATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF INDIA
206, Peters Road, Royapettah, Madras-600 014. Phone : 87314

MESSAGE

By the Rt. Rev. J. Sam Ponniah

"I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town, your Saviour was born Christ the Lord! (St. Luke 2:10-11).

Christmas is the day when we remember the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world. An angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds in the night who were watching their flock near Bethlehem. The shepherds were afraid because they saw the angel for the first time in their lives. The message to them was 'Don't' be afraid. I am here with good news for you."

Christmas is an event of great joy. The first Christmas message to the world was "Don't be afraid." This word appears exactly 365 times in the Bible. It means every day in the year the message to us is "Don't be afraid." Along with this word comes "Great Joy to all the people." Every believer in the Lord is expected to be happy because Lord Jesus has come into this world to save us.

When we look at the world as to what is happening we are afraid. There is no peace in the world. We hear of wars, communal riots, pestilences etc. What about our churches? We see quarrels and divisions. Some of us are concerned of what would happen to the good news to the world. But the Christmas message is "Don't be afraid." There is good news for the whole world. The good news is news of great joy.

The whole world is greatly longing for redemption and joy. Many people are in search of joy and peace. How and from where we can get it? The angel tells the shepherds that the joy could be found only in Jesus. His coming into this world is to give joy and peace that passeth all understanding.

When we remember the birth of Jesus, we must remember the birth as a miracle. He was born of a virgin Mary. Every believer in Christ must believe in the miraculous birth of our Lord. What is impossible with us is possible with God.

On Christmas in all the Churches where there are ordained Pastors, the Holy Communion is administered on the Birthday of Jesus. We remember His death also. Many people would ask us especially non-Christians if they think about the Service why we celebrate the Holy Communion ourselves about the death of Jesus Christ. The answer is without remembering the death of Jesus, the birth of Jesus, won't mean much to us. Because through His death, Jesus has revealed His love and concern for us. Because He loves us much, He gave His life for us. By His death we remember also the wretchedness of our sins. We are all sinners. None of us is perfect. We have our short-comings. We cannot boast of anything good in us. Yet Jesus loves us. So He came into the world as a human being and died for us on the cross. This is good news of great joy.

On the Christmas eve, we remember not only the birth and death of Jesus, but also remember His resurrection. Without His resurrection, the birth and death of Jesus won't have much meaning to us. If we celebrate one who was born and died like common man, Christmas would mean like birth day of other people. But Christmas is a unique event that took place in the history of the world.

On Christmas Day we remember not only the Birth, Death and resurrection of our Lord but also His second coming and Judgment. In our C.S.I. Liturgy, at the Holy Communion Service we say "Thy death we remember Thy resurrection we confess and Thy second coming we await" on Christmas day, and for that matter everyday we remember the coming of our Lord Jesus again with all His glory and power. He will come again as Judge to judge all of us.

When we celebrate Christmas we must remember the Birth, death, resurrection, second coming and Judgment. We must realise that God became man in Jesus on Christmas Day because we are sinners. Our sin is so terrible that God has to come to this world to suffer and die for us.

Christmas also reminds us that it is a day where Jesus has come to save us, primarily for our salvation.

May God bless all of us and grant us freedom from fear and sins and also joy and peace that passeth all understanding.

I wish all of you A Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year.

Bishop SAM PONNIAH.

(The Rt. Rev. Sam J. Ponniah is one of the Vice Presidents of NMSI of India. He was the Bishop in Vellore Diocese until recently.)

CONGRATULATIONS

We are very happy that Mr. Varghese Mathew, Headmaster of Government High School, Cheeral (Near Sultan Battery) Kerala, has been honoured with the State Award for his excellent teaching. He is actively involved in many of the educational, atheletic and scientific organisations.

He is the Secretary of the Wynad Area Committee of NMSI and is committed to the promotional ministry of the Society, and we praise God and congratulate him. He is a member of the Standing Committee of Synod Council. The Sultan Battery Branch Committee of NMSI, in which he is the Secretary, has decided to support one Missionary of NMSI.

We wish and pray that the Lord may bless him and his family with good health, happiness and prosperity.

Letter from the General Secretary

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

We wish you a Joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Personally I am, and on behalf of the Society, thanking God for His mercy and His abundant grace with us during the whole year 1987. God be honoured and glorified. We are called to praise Him along with the children of God, realising His greatness.

A FEW THINGS TO LOOK BACK :

"Drought": Different parts of our country were affected with drought due to insufficient rain.

In-fights" : In the organisations, political parties and Churches have taken place due to various reasons.

"Efforts" : Efforts for peace in Sri-Lanka, Punjab and elsewhere had their own effects.

"Criticisms": People are in the mood of criticising one another and not realising their own mistakes.

"Problems" : As we have read in the Dailies, a number of problems have crept in our country.

Have we done our part ?

? ? ? It remains unanswered, whether we have done in praying for our Nation and its leaders. They are given by God. We, Christians need to pray for our Nation. God is looking for a person who would stand at the gap Jeremiah 22:30. Are you the one ?

N.M.S. of India

December 25th is the birthday of N.M.S. It was born on Christmas day in 1905. Years have rolled; many many who toiled through this missionary movements went into eternity. Many were told of the love of Jesus. Recently, a presbyter of the Church of South India asked :—

What has the N.M.S. done to the Church? It is contemplated to write an article on what the N.M.S. has done to the churches in India. The Society is from the Church and for the Church in India.

Many have prayed, contributed and laboured for Him and went beyond the veil. Many continue to toil. A number of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, General Secretaries, Hon. Asso. General Secretaries, Executive Committee and Council members have served. We, the present ones, have been placed by Him to toil for Him. A group of future leaders may emerge into shoulder the responsibilities.

During the year, God enabled us to achieve the following:

1. A retreat for the office staff.
2. Retreat for the North India and South India N.M.S. Workers, separately.

3. Retreat for the youth in Madras.

4. Conventions and oneday retreats in different parts of the country.

Accidents, sickness and oppositions made all of us to look to God.

Financial strain continues to bother us, who are in Committee, particularly we who are at the Headquarters. The recent Finance Committee directed the General Secretary not to venture in new programmes and to curtail expenditure because we face a deficit of Rs. 1,28,000/-.

This reveals the fact that the Society needs more people from churches for the missionary task of our country. As you remember the Christmas, please also remember the N.M.S. and thank God for its activities in taking the Gospel to the unreached people.

Needs: The Society needs people with commitments to Christ and for His cause, who know Him personally to proclaim His salvation.

May He enable us to tell the good news to others.

May He be with us as Immanuel.

With best wishes and prayers

Yours in His service

J. M. JAYASINGH
General Secretary

FIELD REPORTS

Rev. W. D. Sanjiva & Mr. Godfrey Soans, Hebri, (Karnataka)

They report that their evangelistic work is progressing. They visited 10 families, prayed for them and shared the good news with them. The follow-up work is being done effectively. Pray for their ministry.

Miss Vasanthakumari David, Kagal, Maharashtra :

She informs that 25 unbelievers attended the Seekers' Camp and 14 of them professed that they could know the true living God only through this Camp and came forward to accept the Lord as their personal Saviour. Praise God for strengthening her youth ministry and child evangelism. Thank God for the opportunities she had to share the gospel with more people during her weekly house visits.

Mr. James Meyyan, Athipattu, Tamil Nadu:

During the month he contacted some new persons personally and shared the gospel with them. By the impact of this ministry, Mr. Sundaram accepted the Lord Jesus Christ, and committed his life to God to be His servant. He is prepared to take baptism. Another 10 people are ready to take baptism. Let us pray for them.

Miss Salina Rakha, Ludhiana:

She visited 4 villages around Ludhiana and presented the gospel. She met many poor people and they also invited the evangelist to have prayer meetings in their houses. She also visited hospitals and shared the goodnews with the patients. Tney requested the evangelist to tell more about Jesus Christ. Mr. Mohan is believing the Lord and attends prayer meeting.

Mr. Tahir Masih, Kashmir :

He has conducted prayer meetings. He contacted 15 persons through personal evangelism. The Sunday

worship Service is being conducted regularly. Tracts were distributed. Please uphold his ministry through your prayers.

Mr. I. Sampath James, Lukimpurkheri :

The evangelist found the people living in sin and idolatory. They have no knowledge on salvation. The Lord has burdened the evangelist's heart to pray earnestly and approach those people. Now the people are eagerly hearing the word of God and they confess their sins. Let us pray for these people to come to salvation.

Mr. Daud Sagar, Noliyasahi, Orissa :

He visited some new villages and preached the gospel to the people. He contacted personally 22 people and shared the gospel with them. Now, the people are showing much interest to hear the gospel. Mr. & Mrs. Apparao Swamy are the ones among them. So, please pray for their salvation.

Mrs. & Mr. M. P. Andrews, Pudur Nadu :

They inform that during the month they visited 10 villages and preached the gospel. Tracts were distributed and 2 New Testaments were bought by the people from the evangelists. They contacted some persons with the good news and Mr. Perumal and Mr. Kuthan Annamalai professed to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Let us pray for their spiritual growth.

Mrs. & Mr. Jesudoss, Kalyanamanthai :

They write that they contacted people personally and presented the gospel to them. In Kuttathur village, one Muslim family open their house for prayer and their son who is studying in a college, is very much interested in reading the New Testament. Kindly pray for this family to come tc salvation. Some people requested the evangelists to conduct prayer meetings in their houses.

Please pray that the people in neighbouring houses may come close to the Lord through these prayer meetings.

Mr. E.F. Bernard Shaw & Mr. John Margu, Thongumalai:

They visited some new villages and presented the gospel. Generally, in this area people return from the field in the evening and he could meet these people to share the good news in the evenings only. The people who live in interior places, have requested the evangelists to open new centres for them. There is progress in the Sunday worship and new people are attending the service. Mr. Chinnasamy's child that was suffering from fever, screaming at the mid-night, received divine healing Please pray for his family to come to salvation.

N.M.S. ANNUAL SALE-VELLORE

By the grace of God, the Annual Sale of the NMS Vellore Area, with the co-ordination of all Churches in and around Vellore, was conducted on Saturday, 7th November 1987, at the CSI Central Church, Vellore. The Sale was inaugurated at 10 A.M. by Mr. Benjamin Pulimood, Director of the Christian Medical College & Hospital. The Rt. Rev. H. S. Thanaraj, Moderator's Commissary Vellore Diocese, presided over the function. Mr. R. Alfred, Secretary of the NMS Vellore Area, welcomed the gathering. The Rev. J. M. Jayasingh, General Secretary of the Society, addressing the gathering, informing about the work of the NMSI in detail. Mr. R Stanley Mohan, NMS Missionary on deputation, gave a vote of thanks.

The co-operation extended by the Committees, Churches, Congregations, Institutions, Establishments and other Missionary Societies are much appreciated, and we are thankful to God for their great enthusiasm in Lord's work through NMSI.

R. STANLEY MOHAN
NMS Missionary on Deputation,
Vellore.

N.M.S. NEW BRANCH

A new branch of NMSI has been formed with the help of Mr. Victor Henry (NMS Organising Secretary for South Tamil Area) in Pasumalai, Madurai, in which Mr. Asirvatham, C S I Boys Higher Secondary School, Pasumalai, Madurai-625 004, has been elected as Secretary.

OBITUARY

Mrs. E. Ram, Jhansi : Mrs. Ram, wife of Mr. E. P. Ram, President of the NMSI Jhansi Branch, had her Home Call on Saturday, 31-10-1987. She evinced keen interest in the work of NMSI along with her husband and her demise is a great loss, particularly to NMSI.

Mr. D. H. Stanley, Madras : Mr D. H. Stanley, Brother of Mr M. A. Stanley, Royapettah, Madras, slept in Jesus on 19-11-1987. He was a regular supporter of NMSI and his services are remembered by us.

Mrs. Mary Pappammal Sargunam : Mrs. Mary Pappammal Sargunam, W/o Mr. M. J. Sargunam, Tatapet, Coimbatore, passed away at 6 A M. on 29-11-87, leaving her husband and 3 children. She took much interest along with her husband and prayed for the work of N.M.S.I. She was liberally contributing for the cause of Lord's ministry through NMSI.

May God Almighty console and comfort the bereaved members of the above families.

ERATTA

Kindly read "Methodist Church, Nagpur" against Rs. 260/- on the page of N M I for November 1987 (vol. 80—No. 11).

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N.M.S. Sunday Collections from 21-11-'87 to 2-12-'87 (Up-to-date)

B/F	11,484	75
Rev. Dr. Chacko Joseph, Chaplain, Agriculture Institute, Allahabad	265	00
Dr. V. M John, 3, Wooster Campus, Ewing Christian College, (Marthoma Church) Allahabad U P.	70	00
Through Rev. Edwin Vinodkumar,		
Presbyter-in-charge, Rice Memorial Church, Bangalore.	300	00
Through Mr. J. P. Ashwal, from Bombay		
Methodist Kannada Church, Dharavi	150	00
Dorcas Samaj, Chembur	100	00
Methodist Malayalam Church, Parel.	750	00
Through Mr. J. P. Ashwal, Karnataka		
U. Basel Mission Church, Manipal	137	00
C.S.I. St. Andrew's Church, Chikmagalur	187	10
C.S.I. Santavery Pastorate	211	10
Through Mr. R. P. Eldred,		
Hon. Treasurer, All Saints Cathedral, 52, Muriabad, Allahabad, U.P.	200	00
	13854	95

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